Special Black College Extra ■ The Bowl Glut ■ Chris Simms breaks out

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL
June 2002

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MIKE KALLAY Publisher

EDITORIAL
D. SCOTT SMITH Managing Editor
DAVID A. WITHERS Creative Director
KELLY ROUSE Art Director
KEITH WOOD Internet Manager
MICHAEL J. FRESINA Staff Writer
STEPHANIE BROOKS Editorial Assistant/Website Coordinator
GERARD KAVANAGH Contributing Editor

CONTRIBUTORS
JIM CARLEY
DOUG HUFF *Student Sports Magazine*
SCOTT RABALAIS *The (Baton Rouge, La.) Advocate*
LENN ROBBINS *New York Post*
LUT WILLIAMS *Black College Sports Page*
PETE WILLIAMS

ADVERTISING
SCOTT A. MILLER
Miller Media Development Group LLC
415 Main Street, Suite 2004
Rochester, MI 48307
(248) 601-7355
e-mail: scott@millermedia-dg.com

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ADMINISTRATION
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editor's note

Our mission: send you to Boise prepared.

As you make your notations for the three new bowls that have been added to the college football calendar—and prepare those flight reservations for Boise and Mobile—we at *Street & Smith's* welcome you to another season hoping that you'll find something in these pages to whet your appetite.

Our mission is to thrust you forward into the season, with the final destination being Thrifty Rental Car Bowl Week and those 28 postseason games that come with it.

(Speaking of the postseason glut, you'll find Pete Williams' story on why almost half of the Division I teams will be bowl-bound on page 18.)

Let's hope you find some surprises inside. One might be that we've got Texas No. 1, probably for the first time since Darrell Royal was walking the sidelines in Austin. We figure four consecutive top-ranked recruiting classes ought to be good for something, so why not give Mack Brown and Chris Simms even more pressure to produce a national title down in the Lone Star State?

(Speaking of Simms, you'll find Lenn Robbins' story on the Longhorn quarterback prodigy on page 24.)

Of course, the core of our book is devoted to previews. We've got all 117 I-A teams covered for you, plus more extensive coverage of I-AA, Division II, Division III and black college football than we think you'll find anywhere else.

We've also added a page to each I-A preview and further boosted the major conferences with an additional overview page that gives you answers such questions as:

- Who's the best coaching strategist in the Big Ten?
- Who's the best player under pressure in the Pac-10?
- Who's the biggest underachiever in the SEC?
- Which coach is on the spot in the ACC?

We've also gotten some assistant coaches to talk about their conference rivals and you'll find those sometimes-controversial quotes on the overview page.

In addition to our usual extensive prep coverage— including the unveiling of *Street & Smith's* 2002 High School All-America Team and hundreds of honorable mentions—we've increased our recruiting information, ranking the top recruiting classes in each major conference and providing *Student Sports Magazine* prep expert Doug Huff's analysis of the Top 25 incoming classes on page 167.

For even more on the new season, log on to our web site, **www.streetandsmiths.com.**

If we've done our job, there should be enough useful info to get you through this year's Humanitarian Bowl on the beautiful blue turf in Boise.

D. SCOTT SMITH
MANAGING EDITOR

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Getting Shutout = ...-10 points
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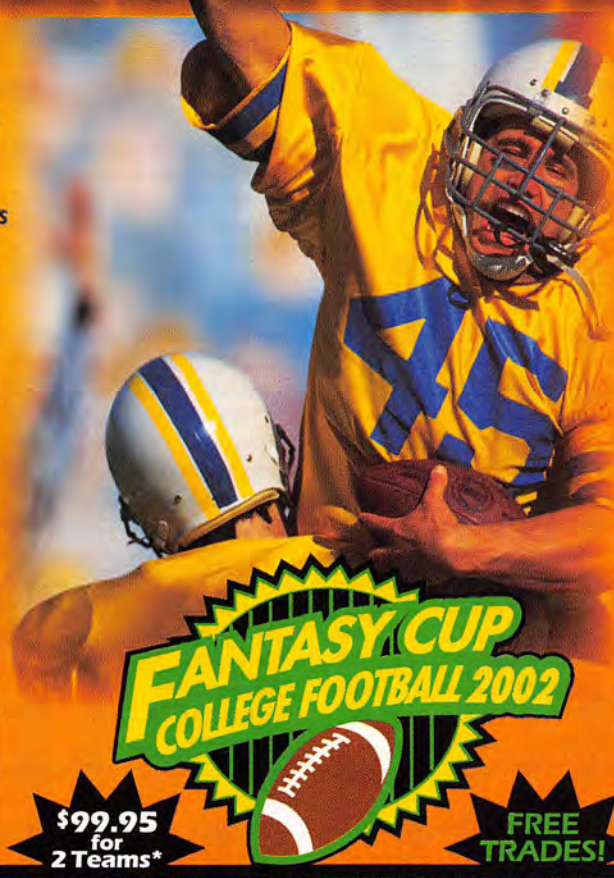
Beat Lesser Top 25 Team = ..10 points



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☐ Colorado	$1,855,000	☐ Memphis	$550,000	☐ Oregon State	$845,000	☐ Washington	$1,900,000
☐ Colorado State	$1,110,000	☐ Miami-Florida	$2,200,000	☐ Penn State	$1,460,000	☐ Washington State	$1,725,000
☐ East Carolina	$1,000,000	☐ Miami-Ohio	$545,000	☐ Pittsburgh	$1,195,000	☐ West Virginia	$340,000
☐ Florida	$1,850,000	☐ Michigan	$1,940,000	☐ Purdue	$1,230,000	☐ Western Michigan	$300,000
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*FreeTeam offer good for those participants who do not receive weekly mailings. Results always available online and through our toll-free customer service operators.

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HULA BOWL MAUI

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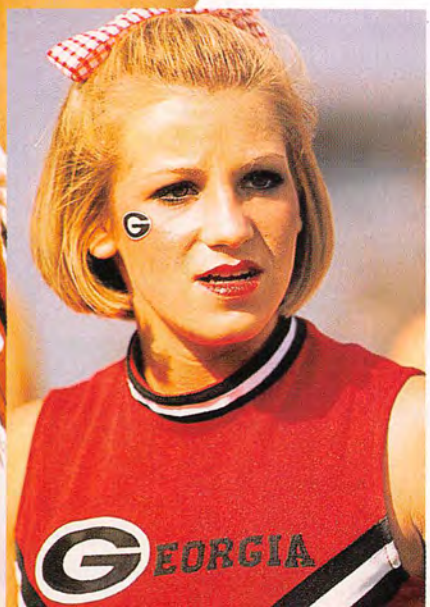

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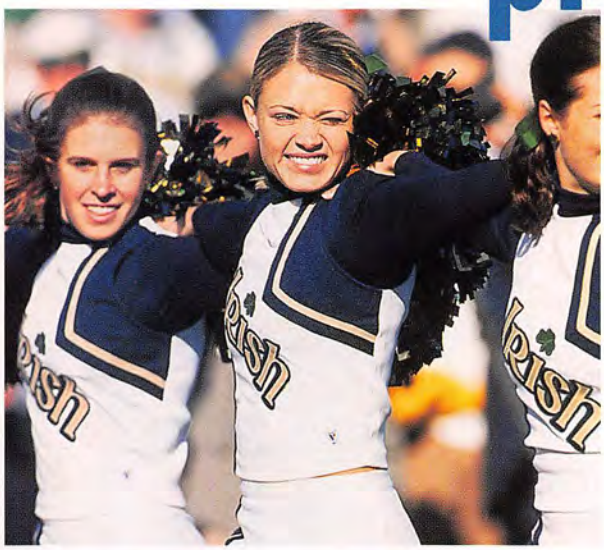

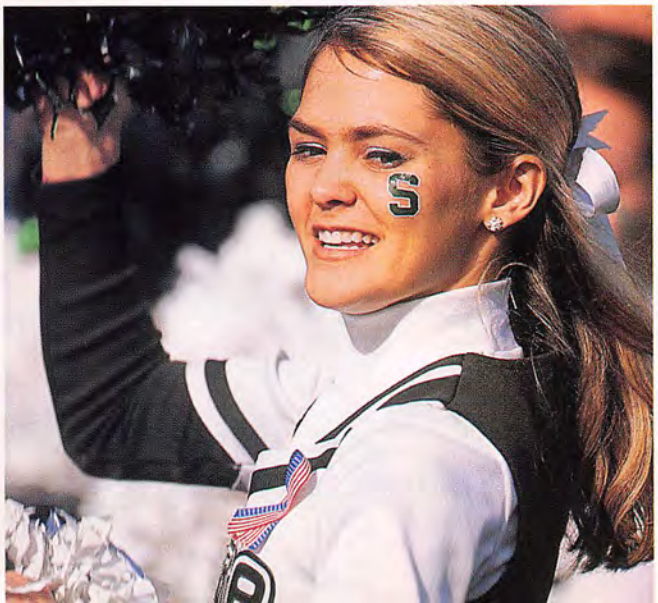

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This page and facing, clockwise from top right: Chuck Rydlewski, Joe Robbins, Paul Jasienski, Vince Muznik, Tomasso DeRosa, Paul Jasienski, Tomasso DeRosa, Joe Robbins

Street & Smith's and Walter Camp FOOTBALL FOUNDATION Present

ALL-A

compiled by Jim Carley

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

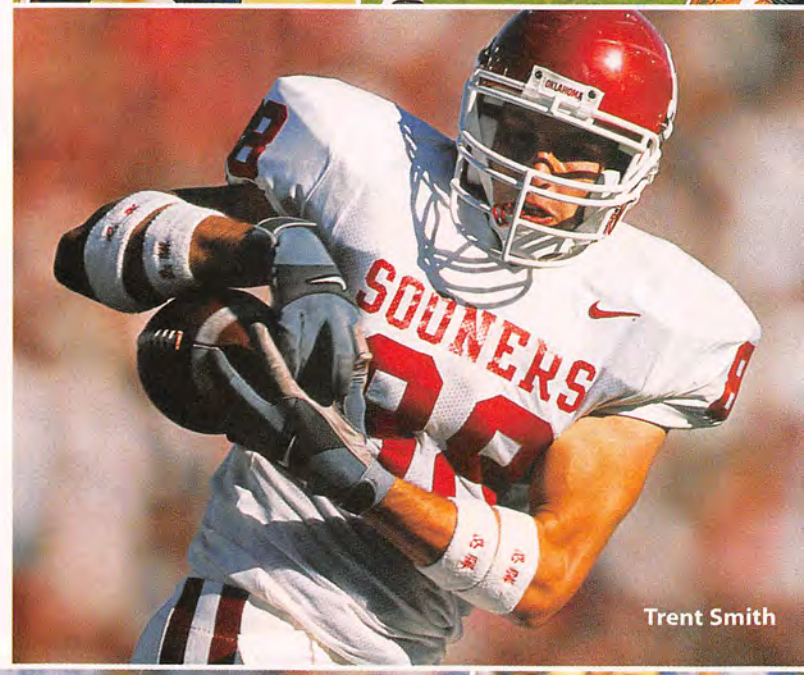
QB **Rex Grossman** JR Florida
RB **Anthony Davis** SO Wisconsin
RB **Dahrran Diedrick** SR Nebraska
WR **Roy Williams** JR Texas
WR **Charles Rogers** JR Michigan State
OL **Brett Williams** SR Florida State
OL **Kwame Harris** JR Stanford
OL **Jon Stinchcomb** SR Georgia
OL **Derrick Roche** SR Washington State
OL **Jeff Faine** SR Notre Dame
TE **Trent Smith** SR Oklahoma
PK **Todd Sievers** SR Miami
KR **Luke Powell** JR Stanford

DEFENSE

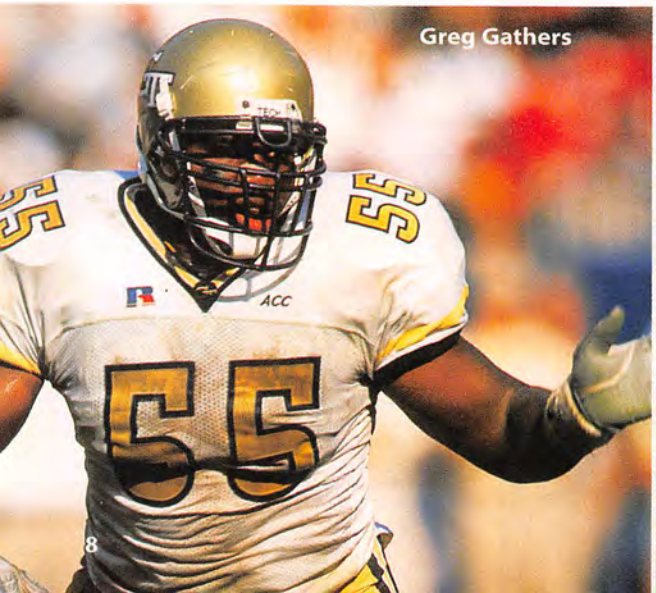
DL **Greg Gathers** SR Georgia Tech
DL **Eric Manning** SR Oregon State
DL **Darnell Dockett** JR Florida State
DL **Cory Redding** SR Texas
LB **E.J. Henderson** SR Maryland
LB **Jarrod Penright** SR Texas A&M
LB **Lance Briggs** SR Arizona
DB **Troy Polamalu** SR USC
DB **Stuart Schweigert** JR Purdue
DB **Terrance Holt** SR North Carolina State
DB **Dennis Weathersby** SR Oregon State
P **Nate Fikse** SR UCLA

Rex Grossman

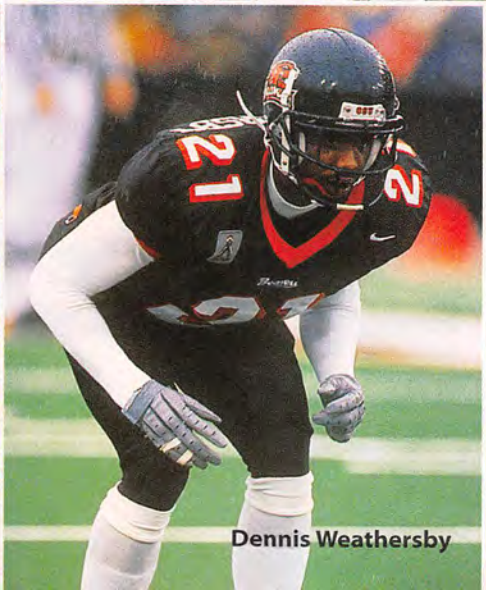
Jeff Faine



Trent Smith



Greg Gathers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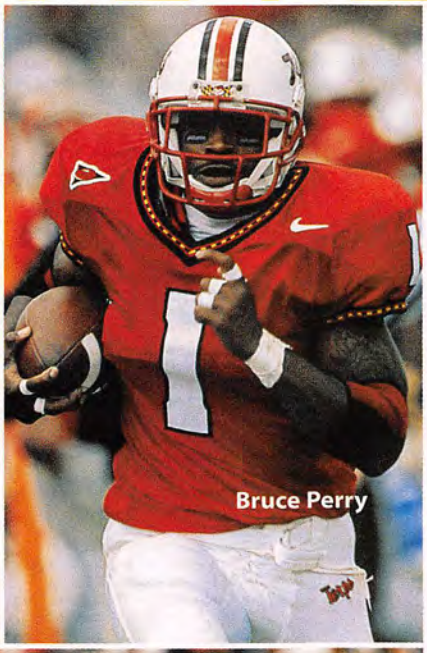
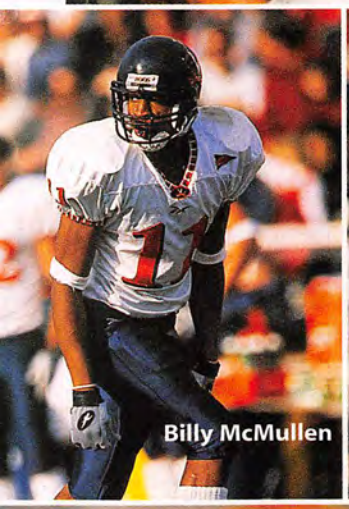
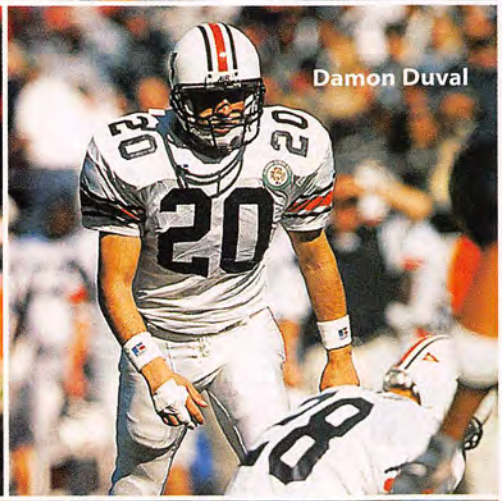
MERICAS

Ken Dorsey


Bruce Perry


Billy McMullen


Damon Duval

Byron Leftwich

Mike Doss

FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS; TOMASSO DE ROSA; BOB ROSATO/BRSP; BRETT HANSBAUER/BRSP; PAUL JASIENSKI; TOMASSO DE ROSA
THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: TOMASSO DE ROSA(2); PAUL CHAPMAN/BRSP; PAUL JASIENSKI (2); TOMASSO DE ROSA

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

QB **Ken Dorsey** SR Miami
RB **Clarence Farmer** JR Arizona
RB **Bruce Perry** JR Maryland
WR **Lee Evans** SR Wisconsin
WR **Darius Watts** JR Marshall
OL **Wayne Lucier** SR Colorado
OL **Tony Pashos** SR Illinois
OL **Brett Romberg** SR Miami
OL **Mike Saffer** SR UCLA
OL **Greg Schindler** SR Stanford
TE **Randy McMichael** SR Georgia
PK **Damon Duval** SR Auburn
KR **Dexter Wynn** JR Colorado State

DEFENSE

DL **Dewayne White** JR Louisville
DL **Chris Kelsay** SR Nebraska
DL **Terrell Suggs** JR Arizona State
DL **Rodney Leisle** JR UCLA
LB **Lawrence Flugence** SR Texas Tech
LB **Bradie James** SR LSU
LB **Victor Hobson** SR Michigan
DB **Ricky Manning** SR UCLA
DB **Mike Doss** SR Ohio State
DB **Nathan Vasher** JR Texas
DB **Donald Strickland** SR Colorado
P **Brooks Barnard** SR Maryland

THIRD TEAM

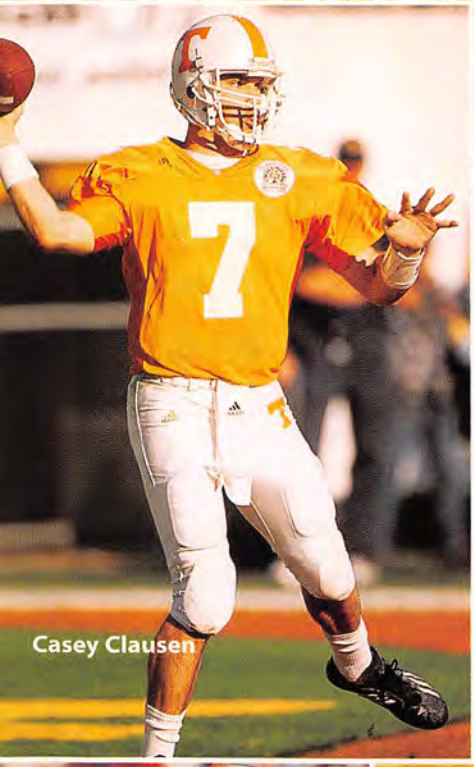
OFFENSE

QB **Byron Leftwich** SR Marshall
RB **Chance Kretschmer** SO Nevada
RB **LaBrandon Toefield** JR LSU
WR **Shaun McDonald** JR Arizona State
WR **Billy McMullen** SR Virginia
OL **A.J. Ricker** JR Missouri
OL **Ben Claxton** SR Ole Miss
OL **Sherko Haji-Rasouli** SR Miami
OL **Nat Dorsey** SO Georgia Tech
OL **Todd Wike** SR Maryland
TE **Dallas Clark** SR Iowa
PK **Xavier Beitia** SO Florida State
KR **Kelley Rhino** SR Georgia Tech

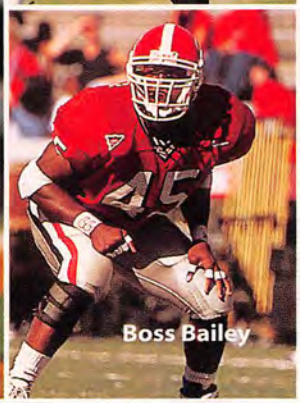
DEFENSE

DL **Tommie Harris** SO Oklahoma
DL **Shaun Cody** SO USC
DL **Kindal Moorehead** SR Alabama
DL **Jerome McDougle** SR Miami
LB **Kendyll Pope** JR Florida State
LB **Dontarrious Thomas** JR Auburn
LB **Brian Gamble** SR Texas A&M
DB **Michael Waddell** SR North Carolina
DB **Sammy Davis** SR Texas A&M
DB **Eugene Wilson** SR Illinois
DB **DeJuan Groce** SR Nebraska
P **Freddie Capshaw** SR Miami

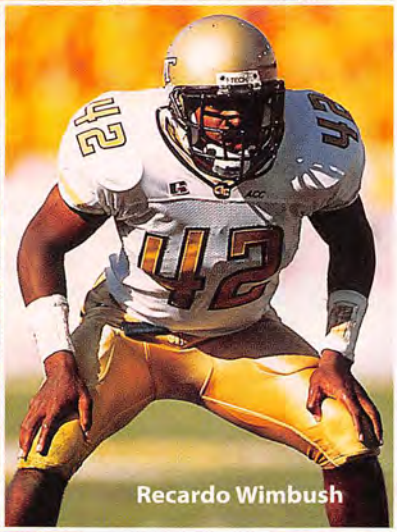
ALL-AMERICA TEAM

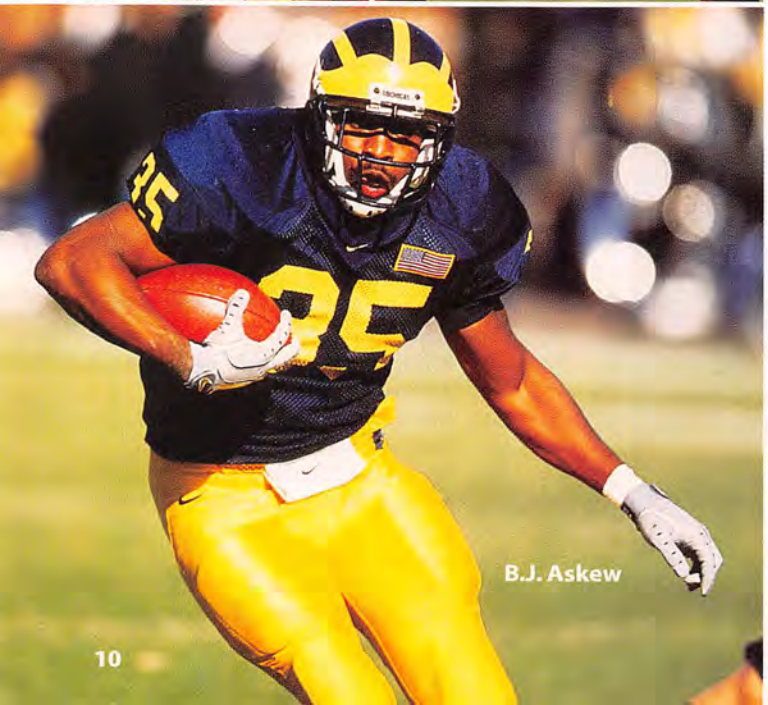

Casey Clausen

Jimmy Kennedy


Boss Bailey

Kenny King


Recardo Wimbush


B.J. Askew

HONORABLE MENTION

Quarterbacks
Chris Simms SR Texas
Eli Manning JR Mississippi
Casey Clausen JR Tennessee
Dave Ragone SR Louisville
Carson Palmer SR USC
Kliff Kingsbury SR Texas Tech
Cody Pickett JR Washington
Timmy Chang JR Hawaii
Jeff Smoker JR Michigan State
Philip Rivers JR North Carolina State
David Greene SO Georgia
Brooks Bollinger SR Wisconsin
Chris Rix SO Florida State
Mark Farris SR Texas A&M
Jon Van Cleave JR Louisiana-Lafayette
Jason Gesser SR Washington State
Seneca Wallace SR Iowa State
Zack Mills SO Penn State
Luke McCown JR Louisiana Tech
Brian St. Pierre SR Boston College
Brian Lindgren JR Idaho
Ryan Dinwiddie JR Boise State

Running Backs
Cedric Benson SO Texas
Earnest Graham SR Florida
Avon Cobourne SR West Virginia
Chris Douglas JR Duke
Fred Talley SR Arkansas
Thomas Hammock SR Northern Illinois
Onterrio Smith JR Oregon
Carnell Williams SO Auburn
Dwone Hicks SR Middle Tennessee
B.J. Askew SR Michigan
Joe Haro SR UNLV
Julius Jones SR Notre Dame
Joe Smith SR Louisiana Tech
Mewelde Moore JR Tulane
Kevin Galbreath SR North Texas
Brock Forsey SR Boise State

Wide Receivers
Ryan McGuffey JR Wyoming
Dan Stricker SR Vanderbilt
James Newson JR Oregon State
Reggie Williams SO Washington
Derek Abney JR Kentucky
Kareem Kelly SR USC
Reggie Newhouse SR Baylor
Michael Jenkins JR Ohio State
William Glover SR Georgia Tech
Keenan Howry SR Oregon
Kelley Washington SO Tennessee
Andre Johnson JR Miami
Derrick Hamilton SO Clemson
Taylor Jacobs SR Florida
Reno Mahe SR BYU
Mark Clayton SO Oklahoma
Ladarius Vann SR Cincinnati
Wilson Thomas SR Nebraska
Bernard Berrian SR Fresno State
Anquan Boldin SR Florida State
Chris Collins JR Mississippi
Marion Barber III SO Minnesota
Wes Welker JR Texas Tech
Michael Clayton SO LSU
Justin Gage SR Missouri
Tyrone Calico SR Middle Tennessee
Bryan Peterson SR North Carolina State
B.J. Johnson JR Texas
Sam Aiken SR North Carolina

Tight Ends
Jason Witten JR Tennessee
Bo Scaife JR Texas
Ronnie Ghent SR Louisville
Ben Utecht JR Minnesota
Doug Zeigler SR Mississippi
Bennie Joppru SR Michigan

Offensive Linemen
Shawn Andrews SO Arkansas
Ben Wilkerson SO LSU
Jordan Black SR Notre Dame
Steve Sciullo SR Marshall
Ben Johnson SR Wisconsin
Wes Sims SO Oklahoma
Montrae Holland SR Florida State
Kyle Eaton SR Oklahoma State
Shane Hall SR South Carolina
Derrick Dockery SR Texas
Dan Koppen SR Boston College
Vince Manuwai SR Hawaii
Jordan Gross SR Utah
John Garrison SR Nebraska
Adam Goldberg SR Wyoming
Brian Rimpf JR East Carolina
Enoch DeMar SR Indiana
Milford Brown SR Florida State
Alonzo Ephraim SR Alabama
Stephen Peterman JR LSU
Vincent Manuwai SR Hawaii
Tony Pape JR Michigan
Damian Lavergne SR Louisiana Tech
Chris Colmer JR North Carolina State
Ben Archibald SR BYU
Eric Steinbach SR Iowa
Dan Vili Waldrop JR Nebraska
Ed Wilkins SR Miami
Rex Hadnot JR Houston
Scott Tercero SR California
Adrien Clarke JR Ohio State

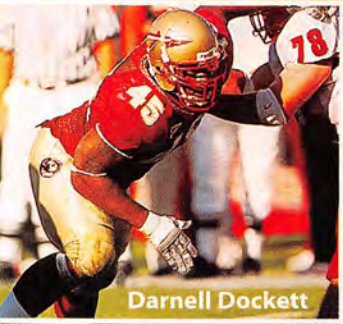
Placekickers
David Davis SR USC
Nick Setta SR Notre Dame
Ryan Cesca SR Oregon State
John Anderson SR Washington
Steve Azar JR Northern Illinois
Seth Marler SR Tulane
Peter Christofilakos JR Illinois
Luke Manget SR Georgia Tech
Asen Asparuhov SR Fresno State
Mark Jensen SR California
Jarvis Wallum JR Wyoming
Nate Kaeding JR Iowa
Drew Dunning JR Washington State
Nick Novak SO Maryland
Josh Scobee JR Louisiana Tech

Defensive Linemen
Jarret Johnson SR Alabama
Dan Klecko SR Temple
Ty Warren SR Texas A&M
Kenny King SR Alabama
Jimmy Wilkerson JR Oklahoma
Demoine Adams SR Nebraska
Jimmy Kennedy SR Penn State
Andrew Williams SR Miami
Shantee Orr JR Michigan
Antonio Garay SR Boston College
Ian Scott JR Florida
Jordan Carstens JR Iowa State
Tim Anderson JR Ohio State
Antwan Peek SR Cincinnati
Garrett Smith SR Utah
Shaun Phillips JR Purdue
Calvin Pace SR Wake Forest
Aaron Hunt SR Texas Tech
Erasmus James JR Wisconsin
William Joseph SR Miami
Chad Lavalais JR LSU
Dan Rumishek SR Michigan
Kalen Thornton JR Texas
Jeff Womble JR Florida State
Brandon Green SR Rice
Anthony Allsbury SR Western Michigan
Darrion Scott JR Ohio State
Nick Burley SR Fresno State

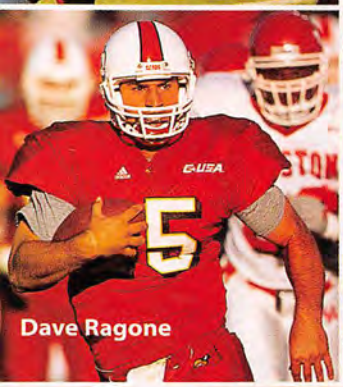
Linebackers
Drew Wahlroos SR Colorado
Mario Haggan SR Mississippi State
Gerald Hayes SR Pittsburgh
Richard Seigler JR Oregon State
Lance Briggs SR Arizona
Jonathan Vilma JR Miami
Sean Doyle SR Missouri
Boss Bailey SR Georgia
Phil Archer JR Minnesota
Michael Boulware JR Florida State
LeMarcus McDonald JR TCU
Landon Johnson JR Purdue
Kevin Mitchell JR Oregon
Matt Robillard SR Miami Ohio
Dantonio Burnette SR North Carolina State
Rod Davis JR Southern Miss
Eddie Strong SR Mississippi
Jerry Schumacher SR Illinois
Matt Wilhelm JR Ohio State
Ross Brupbacher SR Louisiana-Lafayette
John Garrett JR Baylor
Ben Mahdavi SR Washington
Clifton Smith SR Syracuse
Derrick Johnson SO Texas
Fred Barr SR Iowa
Tony Bua JR Arkansas
Teddy Lehman JR Oklahoma
Recardo Wimbush SR Georgia Tech
Michael Woods JR Middle Tennessee
Nick Barnett SR Oregon State
Kirk Morrison SO San Diego State
Courtney Watson SR Notre Dame
Scott Shanle SR Nebraska
Daryl Smith JR Georgia Tech
Robert Rodriguez SO UTEP

Defensive Backs
Roderick Babers SR Texas
Cato June SR Michigan
Matt Ware SO UCLA
Damien James SR LSU
Mitch Meeuwsen SO Oregon State
Rashad Faison SR South Carolina
Jerton Evans SR Virginia
Todd Johnson SR Florida

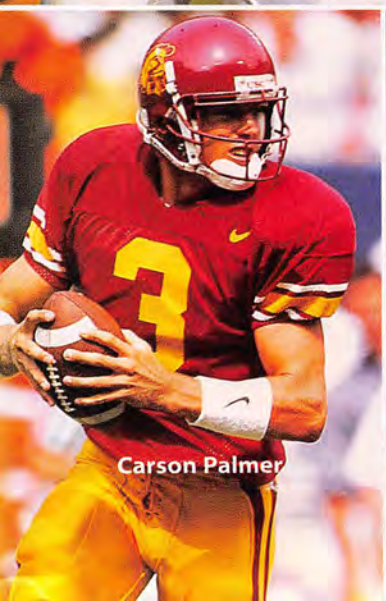
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PAUL JASIENSKI; TOMASSO DE ROSA; PHIL WILLIAMS(2); DAVID DUROCHIK/SPORTPICS; ROB LEITER


Darnell Dockett

Rashad Faison


Dave Ragone

Cedric Benson


Carson Palmer

Matt Ware

Christian Morton JR Illinois
Anthony Floyd SR Louisville
Torrie Cox SR Pittsburgh
Charles Tillman SR Louisiana-Lafayette
Angelo Crowell SR Virginia
Ken Hamlin JR Arkansas
Marlin Jackson SO Michigan
Hanik Milligan SR Houston
Jonas Rutledge JR SMU
Derrick Strait JR Oklahoma
Vontez Duff JR Notre Dame
Ronyell Whitaker SR Virginia Tech
Jernaro Gilford JR BYU
Jordan Kramer SR Idaho
Jason Goss SR TCU
Shawn Seabrooks SR Rutgers
Tyrone Gifford SR New Mexico State
Willie Pile SR Virginia Tech
Benny Sapp JR Iowa
Janssen Patton JR Bowling Green
Antwoine Sanders JR Utah
Donnie Nickey SR Ohio State
Lornell McPherson SO Nebraska
Brian Mance SR Clemson
Jermain Woodard SO Houston
Brandon Everage JR Oklahoma
Jonas Buckles SO North Texas
Shane Walton SR Notre Dame

Punters
Glenn Pakulak SR Kentucky
Mark Mariscal SR Colorado
Donnie Jones JR LSU
Tony Yelk SO Iowa State
Brian Simnjanovski SR San Diego State
John Skaggs JR Navy
Kevin McMyler SR Boston College
Jason Simpson SR Fresno State
Joey Huber SR Colorado State
Mark Fazzolari SR West Virginia
Joey Hildbold SR Notre Dame
Preston Gruening JR Minnesota

SPECIAL AWARDS CANDIDATES

Heisman Trophy
Walter Camp
Maxwell Trophy
Rex Grossman JR Florida
Anthony Davis SO Wisconsin
Dahrran Diedrick SR Nebraska
Ken Dorsey SR Miami
Chris Simms SR Texas
Clarence Farmer JR Arizona
Kliff Kingsbury SR Texas Tech
Roy Williams JR Texas
Byron Leftwich SR Marshall
LaBrandon Toefield JR LSU
Eli Manning JR Mississippi
Casey Clausen JR Tennessee
Dave Ragone SR Louisville
Carson Palmer SR USC
Cody Pickett JR Washington
Timmy Chang JR Hawaii
Cedric Benson SO Texas
Earnest Graham SR Florida
Avon Cobourne SR West Virginia
Chance Kretschmer SO Nevada

Outland Trophy
Lombardi Award
Brett Williams SR Florida State
Kwame Harris JR Stanford
Greg Gathers SR Georgia Tech
Jon Stinchcomb SR Georgia
Cory Redding SR Texas
Jeff Faine SR Notre Dame
Eric Manning SR Oregon State
Darnell Dockett JR Florida State
Rodney Leisle JR UCLA
Derrick Roche SR Washington State
Chris Kelsay SR Nebraska
Brett Romberg SR Miami
Mike Saffer SR UCLA
Greg Schindler SR Stanford
Dewayne White JR Louisville
Terrell Suggs SR Arizona State
Tony Pashos SR Illinois
Victor Hobson SR Michigan

Davey O'Brien Award
Rex Grossman JR Florida
Ken Dorsey SR Miami
Byron Leftwich SR Marshall
Chris Simms SR Texas
Eli Manning JR Mississippi
Casey Clausen JR Tennessee
Dave Ragone SR Louisville
Carson Palmer SR USC
Kliff Kingsbury SR Texas Tech
Cody Pickett JR Washington
Timmy Chang JR Hawaii
Jeff Smoker JR Michigan State
Philip Rivers JR North Carolina State
David Greene SO Georgia
Brooks Bollinger SR Wisconsin

Doak Walker Award
Anthony Davis SO Wisconsin
Dahrran Diedrick SR Nebraska
Clarence Farmer JR Arizona
Chance Kretschmer SO Nevada
LaBrandon Toefield JR LSU
Cedric Benson SO Texas
Earnest Graham SR Florida
Avon Cobourne SR West Virginia
Chris Douglas JR Duke
Fred Talley SR Arkansas
Thomas Hammock SR Northern Illinois
Bruce Perry JR Maryland

Biletnikoff Award
Roy Williams JR Texas
Charles Rogers JR Michigan State
Lee Evans SR Wisconsin
Darius Watts JR Marshall
Shaun McDonald JR Arizona State
Billy McMullen SR Virginia
Ryan McGuffey JR Wyoming
Dan Stricker SR Vanderbilt
James Newson JR Oregon State
Reggie Williams SO Washington
Derek Abney JR Kentucky
Kareem Kelly SR USC
Reggie Newhouse SR Baylor
Michael Jenkins JR Ohio State
William Glover SR Georgia Tech

Bednarik Award
Nagurski Award
E.J. Henderson SR Maryland
Greg Gathers SR Georgia Tech
Cory Redding SR Texas
Eric Manning SR Oregon State
Darnell Dockett JR Florida State
Jarrod Penright SR Texas A&M
Lance Briggs SR Arizona
Lawrence Flugence SR Texas Tech
Bradie James SR LSU
Dewayne White JR Louisville
Chris Kelsay SR Nebraska
Rodney Leisle JR UCLA

Butkus Award
E.J. Henderson SR Maryland
Jarrod Penright SR Texas A&M
Lance Briggs SR Arizona
Lawrence Flugence SR Texas Tech
Bradie James SR LSU
Victor Hobson SR Michigan
Kendyll Pope JR Florida State
Dontarrious Thomas JR Auburn
Brian Gamble SR Texas A&M

Thorpe Award
Troy Polamalu SR USC
Stuart Schweigert JR Purdue
Terrance Holt SR North Carolina State
Dennis Weathersby SR Oregon State
Ricky Manning SR UCLA
Mike Doss SR Ohio State
Nathan Vasher JR Texas
Donald Strickland SR Colorado
Angelo Crowell SR Virginia
Sammy Davis SR Texas A&M
Eugene Wilson SR Illinois
Matt Ware SO UCLA
Michael Waddell SR North Carolina
DeJuan Groce SR Nebraska

Lou Groza Award
Todd Sievers SR Miami
Damon Duval SR Auburn
Nick Novak SO Maryland
David Davis SR USC
Nick Setta SR Notre Dame
Ryan Cesca SR Oregon State
John Anderson SR Washington
Steve Azar JR Northern Illinois
Seth Marler SR Tulane
Peter Christofilakos JR Illinois
Luke Manget SR Georgia Tech
Xavier Bieta SO Florida State

Ray Guy Award
Nate Fikse SR UCLA
Brooks Barnard SR Maryland
Freddie Capshaw SR Miami
Glenn Pakulak SR Kentucky
Mark Mariscal SR Colorado
Donnie Jones JR LSU
Tony Yelk SO Iowa State
Kevin McMyler SR Boston College
Jason Simpson SR Fresno State
Joey Huber SR Colorado State
Mark Fazzolari SR West Virginia

Weekend 2002 Highlights

photos by Catherine Kiernan

Among the highlights of the 35th annual Walter Camp Football Foundation weekend (Feb. 7-9) in New Haven, Connecticut, were the interactive Fan Fest, a Stay in School rally, visits by All-America and NFL players to children in local area hospitals, and the awards dinner at Yale University Commons.

Street & Smith's Gerard Kavanagh presents Coach of the Year Award to Maryland's Ralph Friedgen.

Walter Camp Alumnus of the Year Herschel Walker.

Mike Meyers of the New York City Fire Department accepts the Distinguished Americans Award on behalf of the NYC Fire, Police and Emergency Medical Service Personnel and Port Authority Police.

Walter Camp President Bill Raffone presents Player of the Year Award to Nebraska's Eric Crouch.

Walter Camp officer, Roger Sliby, and Herschel Walker (right) flank Walter Camp Alumni President Tarek Saleh.

Walter Camp Man of the Year Mike Singletary.

Bobby Myers (Tennessee Titans), Travis Dorsch (Purdue), Dwight Freeney (Syracuse) and Than Merrill (Chicago Bears), left to right, at Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Andre Carter of the San Francisco 49ers and Ann Nyberg, ABC New Haven newscaster, at Stay in School rally.

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By Scott Rabalais, *The (Baton Rouge, La.) Advocate*

BCS 'mess' has life support through 2006, but can it outlast critics and revenue concerns?

To many who love college football, it's no coincidence that BCS rhymes with "mess." The convoluted ending to the 2001 season seemed scripted to dramatize all the shortcomings of the Bowl Championship Series system and cry out for a playoff.

But as the 2002 season approaches, the formula by which Division I-A determines its top team remains pretty much unchanged. Once again, the top two teams in the BCS formula will play for the mythical national championship, this time January 3 in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

The major conferences and Notre Dame—which for purposes of weighty college football decisions is a conference unto itself—have already signed up with BCS bowls (Fiesta, Rose, Sugar and Orange) and ABC for another four years of wedded BCS bliss. While there may be discussion, wailing and gnashing of teeth over the merits of a college football playoff, there won't be one until at least the 2006 season.

If then. If ever.

"It's hard to have a crystal ball and know where we go after 2006," says Atlantic Coast Conference Commissioner John Swofford, coordinator of the BCS the last two years. "Change isn't going to happen overnight. We'll need to have serious discussions about what is best for college football and its future. That could be anything from the continuation of the BCS as we know it to a full-fledged playoff."

After producing essentially controversy-free national championship games after the 1998 and 1999 seasons, the BCS has touched off grumbling and criticism the last two years. First, Miami felt it should have played Oklahoma for the title in the 2001 Orange Bowl instead of Florida State after beating the Seminoles during the regular season. Then, Oregon and Colorado each believed they should have been the team to play Miami in the Rose Bowl instead of Nebraska, which with a blowout loss to Colorado didn't even play in the Big 12 Championship Game.

Add to that a BCS formula that has gone from two polls and three computer rankings to eight and now seems harder to figure out than a quarterback-efficiency rating. Even Swofford understands the complaints.

"Criticism of the formula is fair," he says. "It's complicated and perceived to be complicated. As human beings we aren't willing to accept things we don't understand."

So what are the alternatives? While the BCS formula didn't benefit his team, Colorado coach Gary Barnett said he basically likes the current system and can only offer one significant change: place more emphasis on winning a conference title.

"I think if they simply added point value to winning a league championship the whole thing would have been nice," Barnett says. "There wouldn't have been all this clamoring."

LSU coach Nick Saban and his Tigers stoked last season's controversy by beating No. 2 Tennessee in the SEC Championship Game, keeping the Volunteers out of the Rose Bowl and opening the door for Nebraska and heated debate. He would like to see the bowl system remain in place, with only a mini-playoff to follow to remove any doubts of which is the best team.

"I would like to keep the tradition of the bowl games as it is and pick two or four teams to play after the bowls," Saban says. "This year you would have had Oregon and Miami playing at the end. That was the only real question over who was the best. That wouldn't truly be a playoff, but you could take the two best teams after the bowls and see who has the best team."

Miami coach Larry Coker doesn't believe any kind of playoff would be in the best interest of college football.

"A playoff would be fine for us at Miami, but there are a lot of teams for whom it would be very difficult to be in that top four or top eight," Coker says. "I don't know if that eliminates the problem, because that fifth-place team or ninth-place team says, 'We should be there, we were playing well at the end of the year.'"

2002 Rose Bowl

Eventually, though, Barnett sees a playoff as inevitable.

"It (the BCS) will go through the next four-year cycle, but what will be the driving force will be money," Barnett says.

"In order for us to keep all the programs alive, we'll have to find more and more creative ways of getting revenue. And that will be a way. I'm sure in the end we won't be able to turn it down."

Meanwhile, the BCS will have a new boss for the next two seasons. In April, Swofford handed over the secret BCS computer passwords to Big East Commissioner Mike Tranghese.

ICON SPORTS MEDIA

PREVIEW

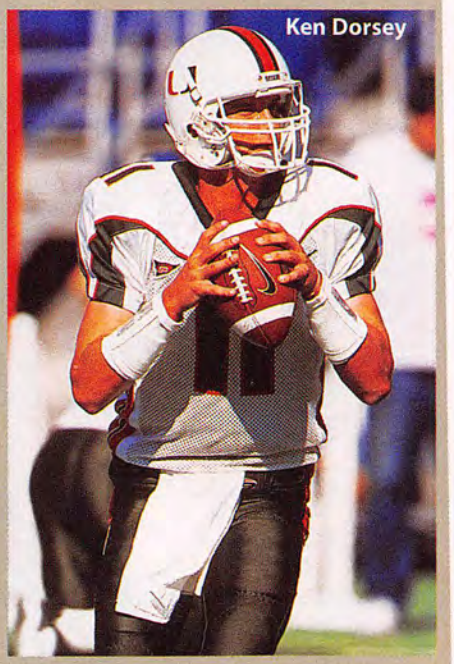
THESE STARS STILL SHINE

Plenty of the biggest names in the game are back in 2002, among them:

■ **Ken Dorsey, QB, senior, Miami:** Last year he won the national championship. This year, Dorsey could plunder the nation's major awards and pilot his team to victory in the Fiesta Bowl.

■ **Rex Grossman, QB, junior, Florida:** Some say he's only the second-best quarterback in the Sunshine State? That might only mean he's one of the top two quarterbacks in the country.

■ **Chris Simms, QB, senior, Texas:** It's all Simms' show in Austin now that Major Applewhite has graduated. Critics say Simms has it all except a knack to win in big games. This year he may get to play in all the big games he can handle.


Ken Dorsey

E.J. Henderson

■ **Onterrio Smith, RB, junior, Oregon:** He rushed for more than 1,000 yards last season despite splitting carries with fellow 1,000-yard rusher Maurice Morris. Now Smith is the main man in the Ducks' attack, especially with quarterback Joey Harrington gone, too.

■ **E.J. Henderson, LB, senior, Maryland:** The focus last year was on Maryland's offense and Julius Peppers of North Carolina as the ACC's best-known defender. But Henderson was the ACC Player of the Year and should emerge as one of the best players in America in 2002.

STREET & SMITH'S PRESEASON TOP 25

1. Texas
2. Miami
3. Oklahoma
4. Florida State
5. Tennessee
6. Georgia
7. Colorado
8. Florida
9. Oregon
10. Nebraska
11. Michigan State
12. Washington
13. Wisconsin
14. LSU
15. Washington State
16. South Carolina
17. Maryland
18. Michigan
19. Syracuse
20. Louisville
21. Virginia Tech
22. Auburn
23. Ohio State
24. Marshall
25. Ole Miss

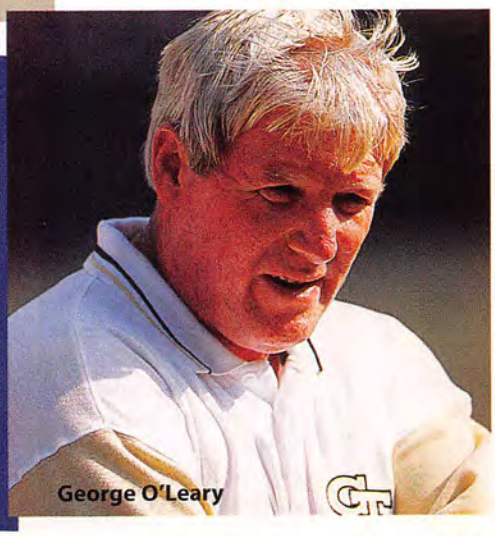
Reading between the lines

There was never a coaching change like the one that saw George O'Leary come—and swiftly go—from Notre Dame last December. O'Leary resigned after five days on the job when it was revealed he never earned three football letters at the University of New Hampshire or a master's degree from New York University. The former Georgia Tech head coach eventually surfaced in Minnesota as the Vikings' defensive line/assistant head coach.

The repercussions of the O'Leary debacle didn't end with his departure from South Bend. Back in Atlanta, the new Georgia Tech staff of head coach Chan Gailey came under increased scrutiny. The result: Gailey's defensive coordinator, Rick Smith, resigned after it came out that he never played football or baseball at Florida State as his profile claimed.

"I'm basically ruined," Smith said.

Tech receivers coach Tommie Robinson kept his job after falsely listing a master's degree in his bio. But that and the Smith discrepancies led Georgia Tech to demote sports information director Mike Stamus to assistant status.


George O'Leary

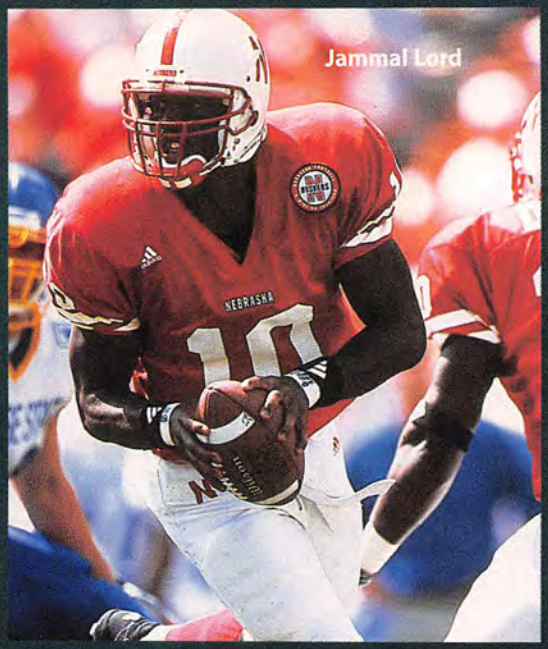
LEFT TO RIGHT: JEFF FISHBEIN; TOMASSO DEROSA; KEVIN REECE

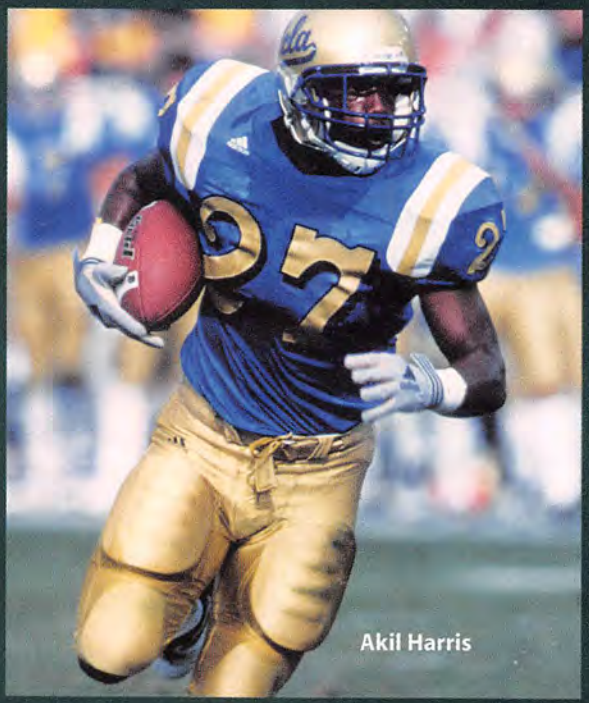
THE REPLACEMENTS

These five players will be trying to sparkle in the place of last season's brightest lights:

■ **Jammal Lord** won't make Cornhusker fans forget Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Eric Crouch. Instead, he will make a different impression altogether. Lord (6-2, 215 pounds) is more of a passer than a runner like Crouch. Late word out of Lincoln is that Lord could be pushed in the preseason by freshman Curt Dukes, who enrolled in January.

■ All Fresno State junior **Jeff Grady** has to do is take the place of Johnny Unitas Award winner David Carr, the NFL's top draft pick in April. It would be a stretch to say that Grady is Carr's equal, but Grady possesses a strong and accurate arm.


Jammal Lord


Akil Harris

■ Biletnikoff Award-winning receiver Josh Reed set 12 SEC and school records at LSU in 2001. It would be unfair to expect such numbers from sophomore **Michael Clayton**, except he had such an impressive freshman year himself (47 catches, 754 yards, six TDs).

■ Junior **Akil Harris** actually ended up playing two more games at tailback for UCLA last season than senior DeShaun Foster. Foster was suspended after eight games by the NCAA because of an extra-benefits violation. Harris is the most experienced among a legion of Bruin ball carriers, picking up 375 yards and three touchdowns on 76 carries in 2001.

■ The North Carolina Tar Heels need help everywhere on defense after losing nine starters, but the most glaring void was left by stud defensive end Julius Peppers. The most likely candidate to fill his cleats is **Issac Mooring**, a junior who had 21 tackles and two sacks last season. He'll need to grow up in a hurry like the rest of the Tar Heels, who expect to have the youngest defense they have ever fielded.

OOOOOOOvertime!

A rule forcing teams to go for two-point conversions after touchdowns following the second overtime was supposed to head off marathon games like the one Arkansas and Ole Miss played on November 3 in Oxford, Mississippi.

The typically-tense SEC grudge match, a night contest on ESPN2, turned into something resembling a telethon as the Razorbacks and Rebels battled toward dawn. Eventually, Arkansas linebacker Jermaine Petty brought down Ole Miss tight end Doug Ziegler on a two-point try in the seventh overtime for a 58-56 Razorback victory. It was the longest NCAA Division I game ever played.

The football rules gurus at the NCAA empathize with players and fans who had to endure a game that threatened to push back Sunday morning church services in Oxford. But the NCAA's Dennis Poppe says there's not much more the game's rules-makers can do.

"There are no major changes that are going to be made to the current format," says Poppe, the NCAA's senior director for football and baseball. "I don't think anyone could have expected a game like that."

Arkansas players celebrate after defeating Ole Miss in the longest Division I game ever played.

Several other rules changes are in place for the coming season, though. The most significant includes an experimental 45/25-second play clock that will be used by some conferences. If a play ends inbounds and the clock continues to run, the 45-second play clock will be implemented. If there is an administrative stoppage of play (penalty, injury, play out-of-bounds), the old 25-second play clock will be used.

TOP TO BOTTOM: JOHN WILLIAMSON; ICON SPORTS MEDIA; COURTESY UNIV. OF ARKANSAS

Extra, extra

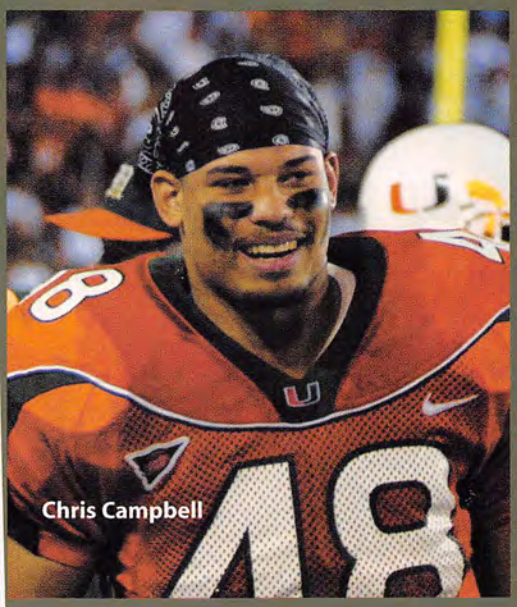
Beginning this season, college football fans will have to dig a little deeper to pay for more tickets, while players and coaches will have reach for that second wind. That's because this year, for the first of six times over the next 18 seasons, Division I schools will be allowed to play 12 regular-season games.

The NCAA approved the extra game in 1999, which goes into effect this fall because of a quirk in the schedule. This year, as in 2003, 2008, 2013, 2014 and 2019, there are 14 possible playing dates compared with the usual 13.

The 12th game could lead to a 13th game for a handful of teams if they're playing in one of the special preseason classics. The 12th-game scenario strikes down the classics, but not until next season, and then not completely. The two Black Coaches Association games will still be played in 2003 and 2004 because of existing TV contracts. Meanwhile, there may be a surge of preseason classics this season to seven or eight instead of the traditional four.

NCAA officials say it is unlikely that a 12th game will become a permanent part of the schedule. But then again, that's probably what they were saying back in the late 1960s when the schedule expanded from 10 games to 11.

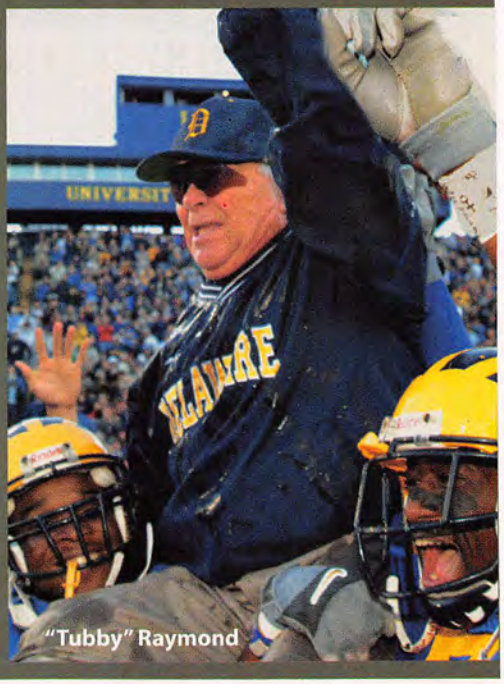
THE TWO-MINUTE DRILL


Chris Campbell

■ Less than two months after the Miami Hurricanes returned to the pinnacle of college football by beating Nebraska in the Rose Bowl, the program was laid low by the death of senior linebacker Chris Campbell. A three-year starter for Miami and a projected NFL draft pick, Campbell lost control of his car early on the morning of Febrary 16 and struck a tree. Campbell, who played in the Hurricanes' 11 regular-season games but missed the Rose Bowl with a knee injury, was 21.

■ The SEC was rocked by a pair of heavy NCAA penalties early this year when Alabama and Kentucky were slapped with probation. Alabama got five years, including the loss of 21 scholarships and a two-year bowl ban, after boosters were found guilty of paying thousands of dollars to entice prospects to Tuscaloosa. Thomas Yeager, chairman of the NCAA Infractions Committee, says the Alabama program was "absolutely staring down the barrel of a gun"—that gun being the so-called "death penalty." Meanwhile, Kentucky received three years—including 19 scholarships slashed and a bowl ban in 2002—after ex-UK recruiting coordinator Claude Bassett was accused of paying recruits. Outgoing SEC Commissioner Roy Kramer went from fielding questions about the BCS to being asked if his league was beginning to resemble the wild, lawless and now-defunct Southwest Conference.

■ Delaware coaching legend Harold "Tubby" Raymond retired after last season, his 36th on the job, with a 300-119-3 record. Raymond, 75, had just five losing seasons, including a 4-6 mark in 2001, and led the Blue Hens to NCAA Division II championships in 1971, 1972 and 1979. "Nothing lasts forever, and so it is with me," said Raymond, years ago nicknamed "Napoleon" by the late Paul "Bear" Bryant. Raymond is just one of eight members of NCAA Division I's 300-win club. The only active members are Penn State's Joe Paterno (327) and Florida State's Bobby Bowden (323). Paterno passed Bryant, and Bowden tied the Bear for the Division I-A record last season.


"Tubby" Raymond

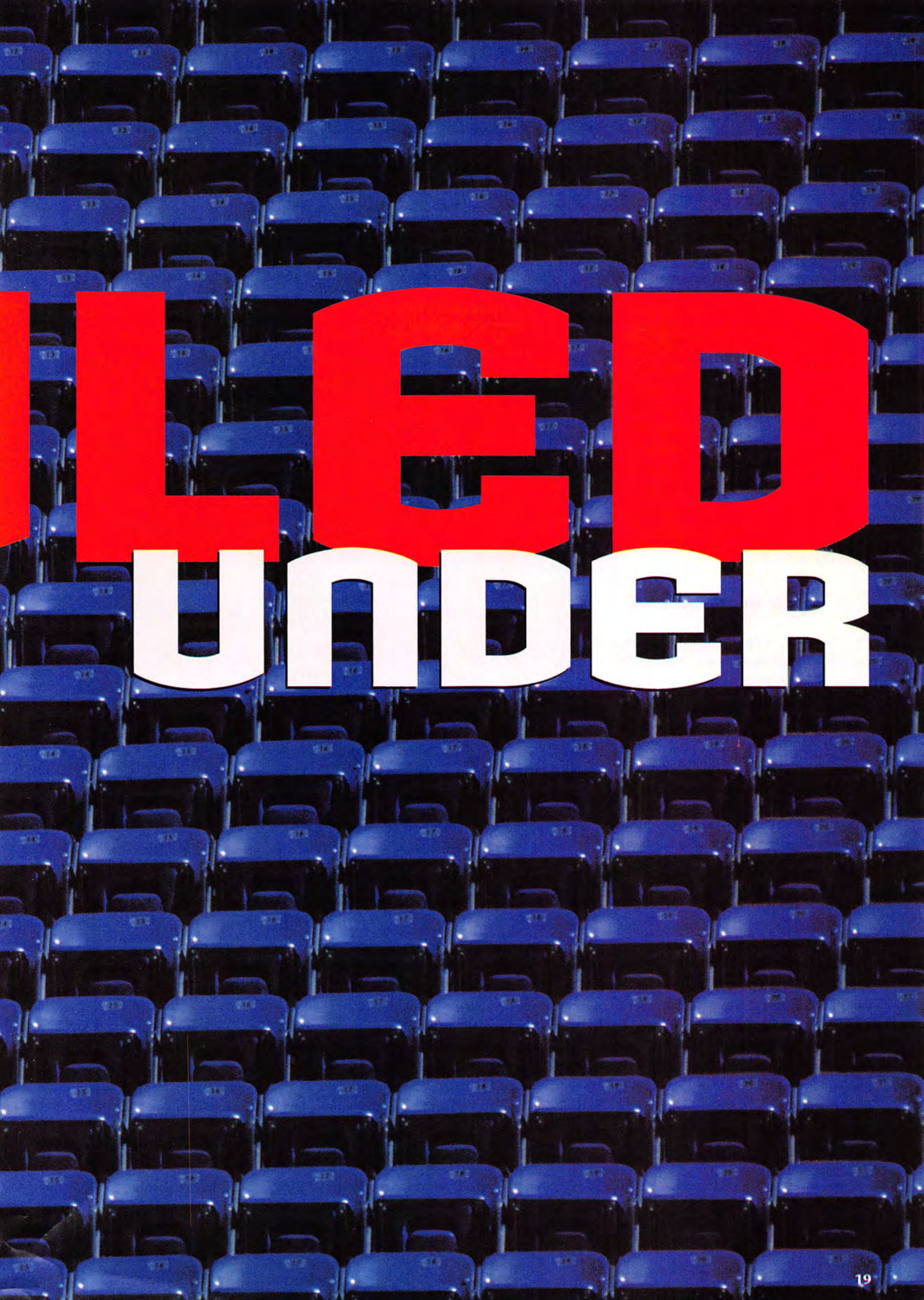
Ted Hendricks

■ Apparently "The Stork" is bringing another position-specific award to the already-crowded postseason awards banquet scene. This one would be called the Ted Hendricks Award, named after the former Raiders and Colts great, and would go to the top college player at defensive end. The "Teddy" would put the number of college awards at 19. That's more than enough already. ■

BOW

The glut of meaningless and money-losing postseason bowls has everyone wondering when enough will be enough.

By Pete Williams


LED
UNDER

It used to be that a postseason bowl appearance was something special, a reward given to a precious few programs for an outstanding season.

For many years, there were only a dozen or so bowls, which generally limited participation to ranked teams. There usually was some incentive to win, if only to move up a few slots in what was then the *Associated Press* Top 20 poll.

These days, all a Division I team has to do is load up on non-conference patsies early in the season, string together two or three league wins and get ready for a week's worth of fun, preferably in Florida or New Orleans.

The games themselves, except for the few with title implications, are quickly forgotten. Does anyone other than fans of the participating schools remember who won the Outback Bowl three years ago? What about the '98 Peach Bowl?

Gala or game?

"Bowls were never created to produce national champions," says Rick Catlett, president of the Football Bowl Association and executive director of the Gator Bowl. "They were created for communities to throw festivals."

That still happens, at least in places like Pasadena, Miami, Tempe and New Orleans, where the upper-tier bowls have national title implications and provide huge financial incentives to participating teams. But the rest of the bowl schedule is about as appealing as a spring football intrasquad game, with mediocre programs traveling thousands of miles to play before 40,000 empty seats in such prime winter destinations as Detroit, Nashville and Shreveport.

The NCAA recently lifted a two-year moratorium on new bowls and now seems content to certify anyone willing to pony up the $2 million letter-of-credit. More bowls mean more teams can participate in the postseason, which generates more interest in the regular season and, in theory, more revenue for schools. Three new bowls were added for this season (in Charlotte, San Francisco and Honolulu), bringing the grand total to 28.

But unlike other meaningless sporting events—the NFL preseason, all-star games, figure skating barnstorming tours—that can be justified by the huge money generated, there's no longer a financial incentive to keep most bowl games afloat.

Red ink runs deep

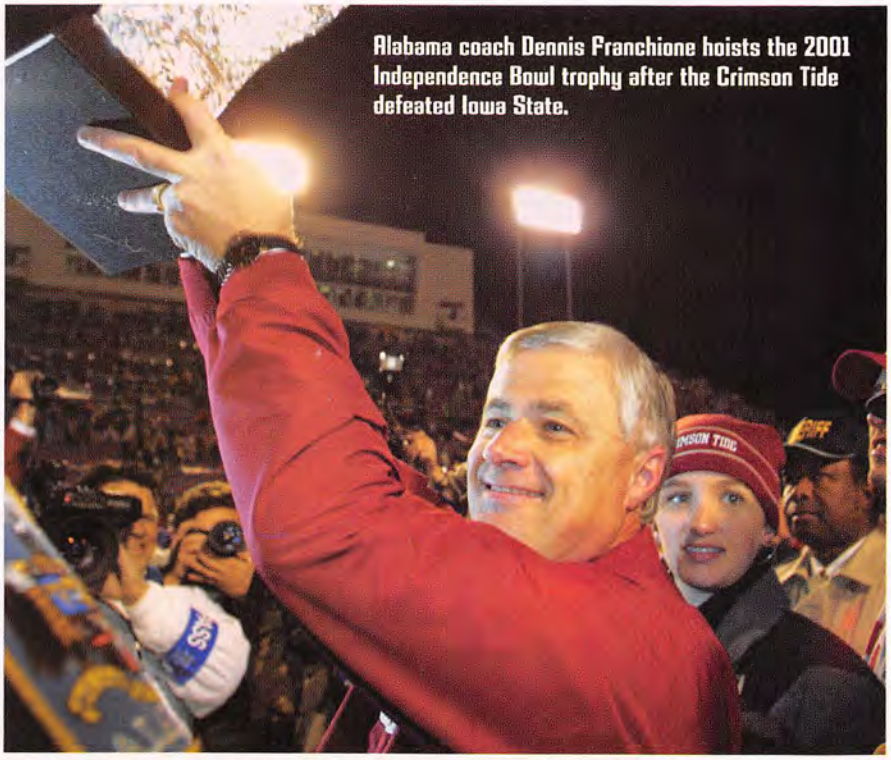
Many non-Bowl Championship Series bowls lose money as they inevitably fail to lure tens of thousands of fans from the participating schools for a meaningless game. With teams spending a week in the host cities and bringing every last cheerleader, band member and athletic department secretary, schools often lose money on the deal.

Even jock-sniffing corporate executives, who for years subsidized games in return for title sponsorship, premium seating and the chance to rub elbows with players and coaches, have finally begun to realize that the games offer little return in terms of marketing and advertising.

Then again, many fans still chuckle over the "Poulan Weedeater Independence Bowl," although it's been years since the company sponsored the event. But for the most part, title sponsorship goes largely unnoticed by fans and viewers, to say nothing of sportswriters who sometimes refuse to refer to a game by its title sponsorship.

Bowling for dollars

Without sponsorships, many bowls require teams and their conferences to subsidize the games through guaranteed ticket sales and sponsor money. In effect, teams must "pay to play," a disturbing but growing trend that is perhaps the strongest argument for trimming the bowl schedule.

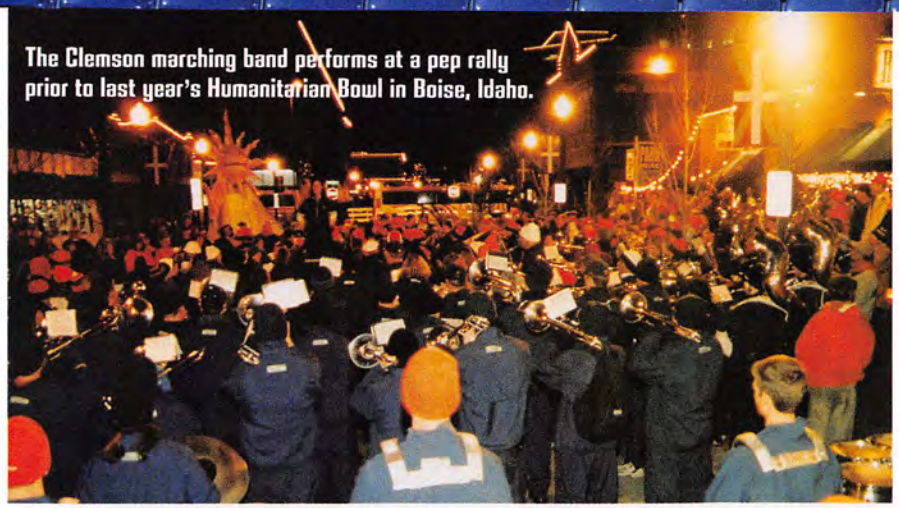


Alabama coach Dennis Franchione hoists the 2001 Independence Bowl trophy after the Crimson Tide defeated Iowa State.

Last year, Clemson and the Atlantic Coast Conference contributed more than $600,000 in tickets and sponsorship fees just so the Tigers could travel to snowy Boise, Idaho, and play in the ever-prestigious Humanitarian Bowl. Michigan State kicked in $550,000 to compete in the Silicon Valley Football Classic.

UCLA, which finished 7-4 last season, removed itself from bowl consideration when it became apparent the Bruins would have to lose money to take a postseason trip.

"Ticket purchases are one thing, but when they're asking you to buy a corporate sponsorship package, I just think that's wrong," then-UCLA athletic director Peter Dalis told *USA Today* at the time. "I think a lot of schools feel very strongly that, no matter what the cost, they have to go to a bowl game. In my 19 years in this business, I've



The Clemson marching band performs at a pep rally prior to last year's Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho.

found they really don't alter the future. I think it's a myth."

The School of Any Publicity is Good Publicity

Still, many college athletics officials continue to believe that any bowl appearance—even one in a mid-December contest played in an empty stadium and watched by only the most diehard football fans—is essential to recruiting and maintaining a national profile.

But, if anything, the appearance of a lesser team in a bowl only calls attention to the fact that the team underachieved and did not deserve to be there. It's hardly the desired message to send to recruits and check-writing alumni.

Last season, the University of Pittsburgh ended up in the Tangerine Bowl despite a 6-5 season that included a 1-5 start and a loss to South Florida, a team playing its first full Division I-A schedule. But the Panthers looked overqualified compared with North Texas, which rolled into the inaugural New Orleans Bowl with a 5-6 record and a waiver that allowed the Sun Belt Conference champion to play in a bowl despite falling short of the usually requisite six wins.

"We've blurred the distinction between bowl-eligible and bowl-deserving," says Glenn Krupica, executive director of the Independence Bowl.

The Sun Belt bust

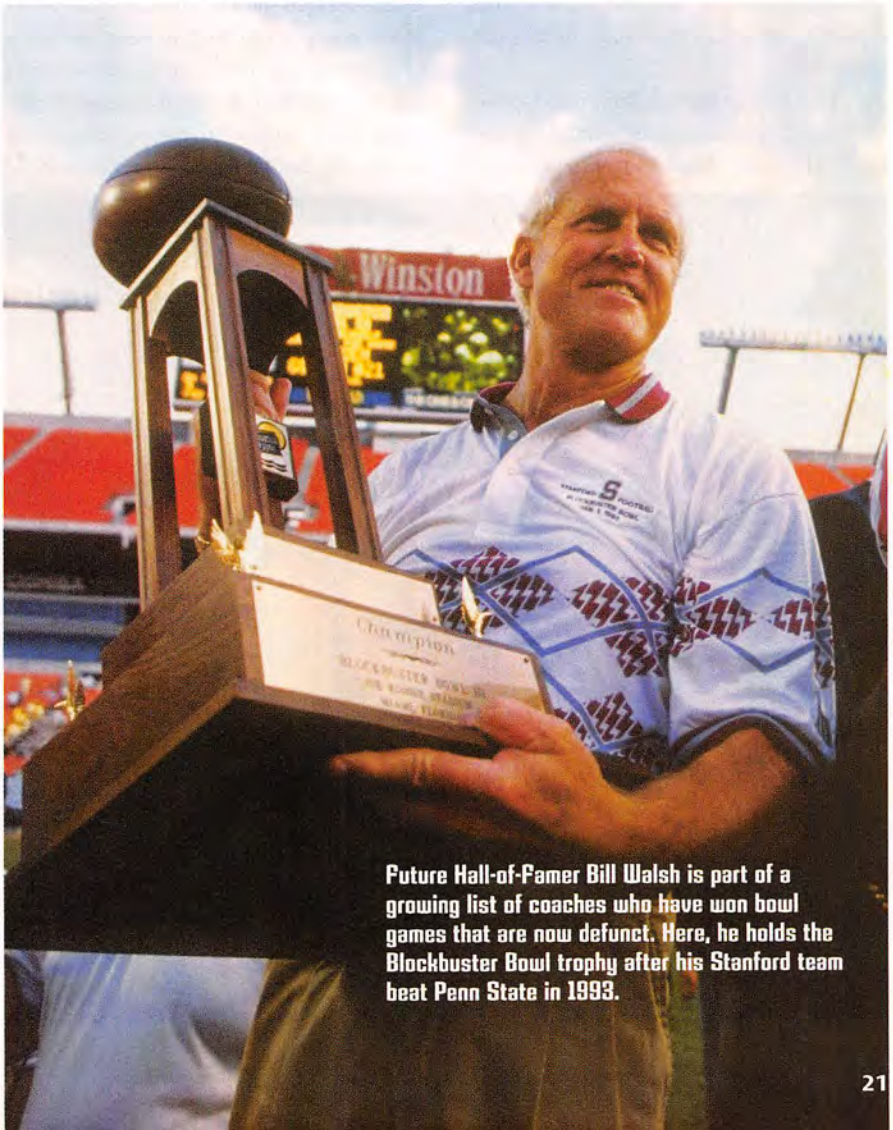
Before the 2001 season, Sun Belt Conference officials were granted an exemption from the six-win requirement, which further eroded the remaining integrity of the postseason. No one seems concerned that a handful of 6-5 teams inevitably find their way into an Independence or Music City Bowl. But what would happen if there were not enough teams with six wins to fill the bowl schedule?

"That's a big concern," says Catlett. "It's not that far-fetched a possibility."

Catlett says it would be sufficient to have just a dozen games. That would leave ample slots for top-tier teams and still give teams in third or fourth place in a conference something to shoot for late in the year. If nothing else, fewer bowls would make it easier for fans to keep track of the postseason.

With bowls constantly changing sponsors and host cities, it's difficult for even the most avid college football couch potato to remember which games are which, let alone which features the fifth-best team from one conference against the sixth-best from another.

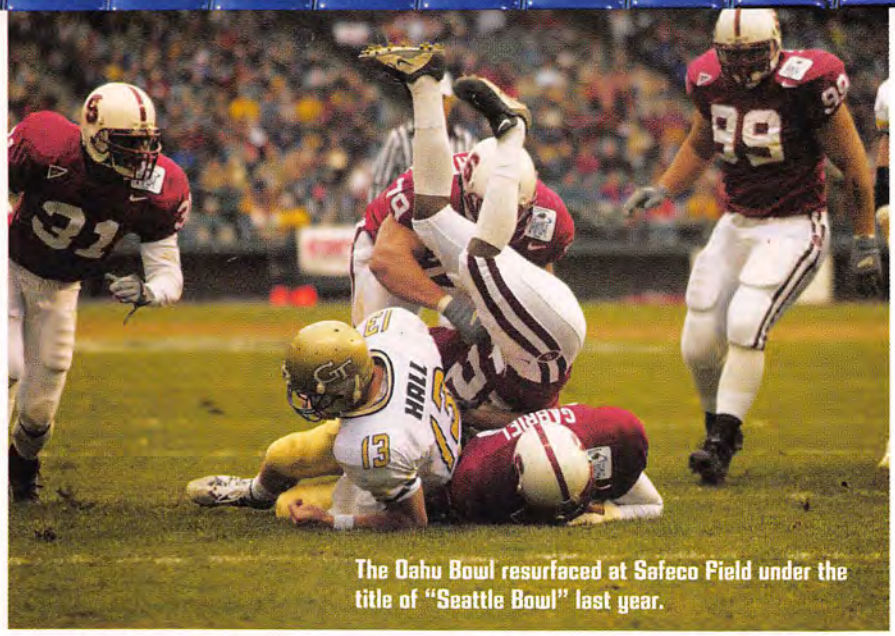
Take the forgettable Tangerine Bowl, which can be yours this year if you're willing to pay for the title sponsorship. When it was created in 1990 as the "Blockbuster Bowl," it was hailed as the new business model for bowl games since the contest itself was named for the sponsor.



Future Hall-of-Famer Bill Walsh is part of a growing list of coaches who have won bowl games that are now defunct. Here, he holds the Blockbuster Bowl trophy after his Stanford team beat Penn State in 1993.

Unfortunately, the game struggled to develop an identity, as the sponsor, and thus the name, seemed to change every other year, evolving from the Blockbuster Bowl to the Carquest Bowl to the Micronpc Bowl to the Micronpc.com Bowl. The game, which is run by Raycom Sports, never drew well and lost its title sponsorship completely after Micronpc.com bailed after the 2000 game.

Even that was not enough to kill the event. Last year, it moved to Orlando's Citrus Bowl, failed to land a title sponsor and ended up with a matchup of the less-than-impressive Pitt and 7-4 N.C. State.



The Oahu Bowl resurfaced at Safeco Field under the title of "Seattle Bowl" last year.

Turning to tax dollars

Ironically, the game had to be bankrolled by Visit Florida, the state's official tourism-marketing agency. For years, bowls were viewed as economic stimulators, filling hotel rooms and restaurants. These days, most bowl communities experience lukewarm returns, especially since they often have to subsidize the events.

The Holiday Bowl in San Diego receives $700,000 in city and county hotel tax revenue. The Gator Bowl in Jacksonville gets $350,000 annually from a similar tax.

In El Paso, Texas, the Sun Bowl receives $1.5 million annually—roughly half its annual budget—as a result of a rental-car tax voters approved in 1997 to keep the game from going the route of the Bluebonnet and All-American Bowls. Last season, the Oahu Bowl moved to the mainland and became the Seattle Bowl, in part because of a $1.5-million hotel rebate program.

About 80 percent of bowl revenue comes from three sources: title sponsorship, television and ticket sales. About half of the bowls receive public subsidies.

With an NCAA-mandated guarantee of $750,000 per team, bowls must generate at least $1.5 million along with a minimum of $500,000 in operating income to run an event. The NCAA requires that bowls keep no more than 25 percent of revenue, with anything beyond that going to the teams.

"You want to be able to pay out more because that gives your game stability," says Krupica. "A title sponsor is pretty much essential to pull that off."

In theory, the sluggish economy could cause a shakeout in the bowl schedule, with sponsor-less games folding or merging. Then again, if the fledgling bowls could survive last season, when leisure travel all but disappeared following September 11, they can outlast anything.

And when the NCAA's moratorium on adding new bowls ends after this season, there will be new bowls and communities lining up to join the bloated schedule.

"Like any other industry, there will be some weak links that disappear," Catlett says. "But given the value of these games to communities, you can be certain there will be others to take their place." ■

A $700,000 tax take keeps San Diego's Holiday Bowl rolling. Texas beat Washington in last year's game.

Pete Williams is a regular contributor to Street & Smith's.

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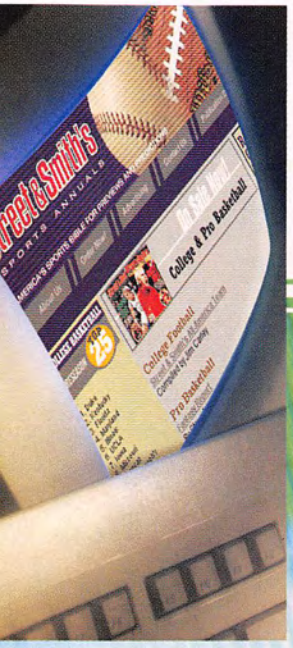

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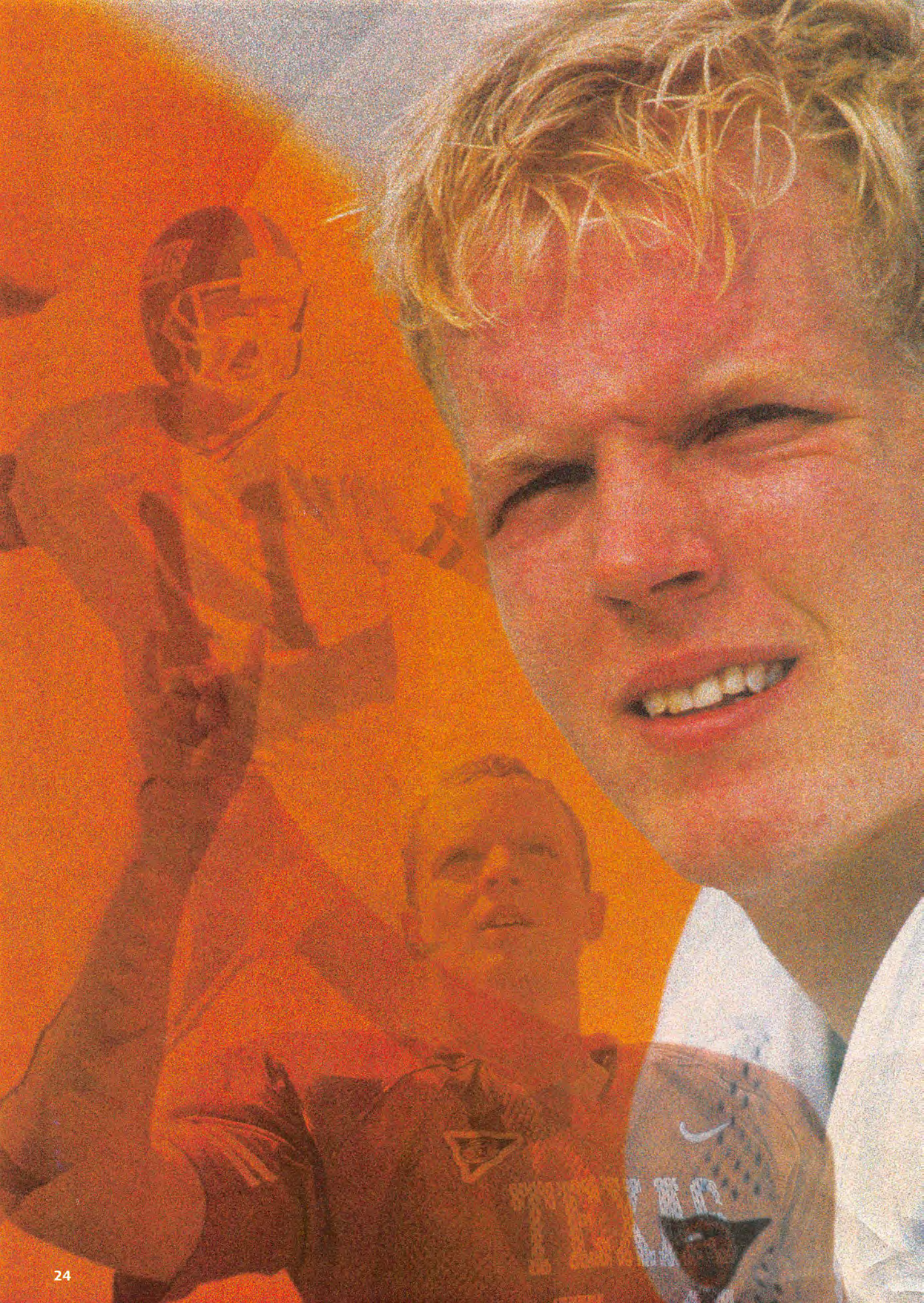
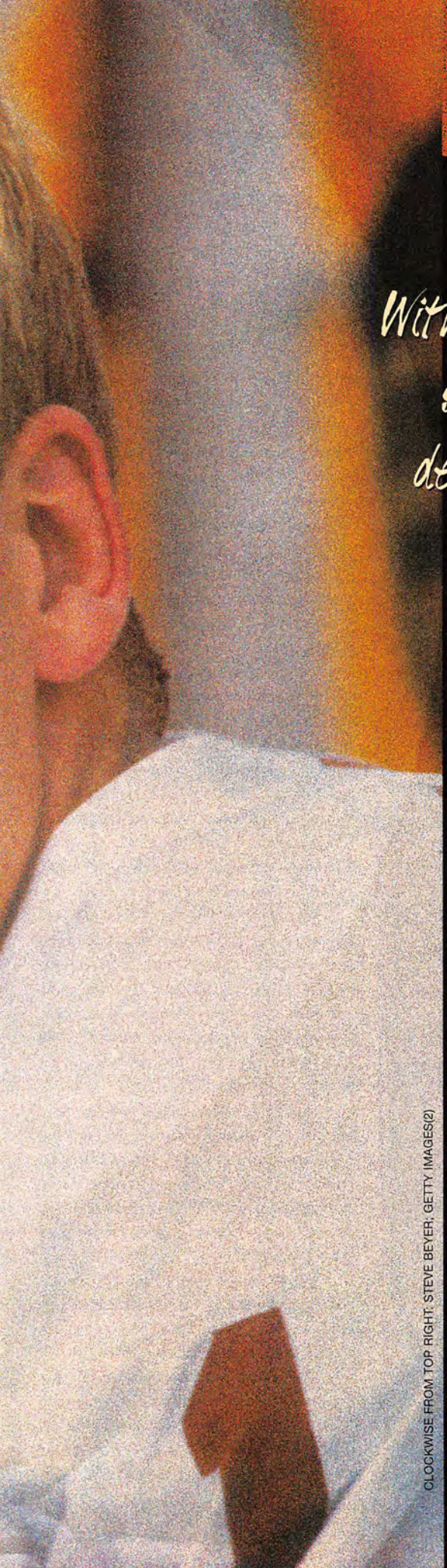




CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: STEVE BEYER; GETTY IMAGES(2)

With the shadow of his famous father still looming and Major Applewhite departed, Chris Simms gets one last chance to win the hearts of Texas fans and, maybe, a Heisman.

Favorite Son

By Lenn Robbins
New York Post

In Texas, where everything is big, there is nothing bigger than a quarterback controversy.

It is a chilly January evening in New York when a group of four young women, each more striking than the next, stop a stranger on the street and ask directions to a local bar.

Then they notice the baseball cap with the Longhorn logo on the bill and screech.

"Wooo! Hook 'em, 'Horns! We're from Austin. Go Major Applewhite!'

Major Applewhite will not be the starting quarterback at Texas this season, just as he wasn't last season, with the exception of one game—the last game, a dramatic, come-from-behind victory over Washington in the Holiday Bowl.

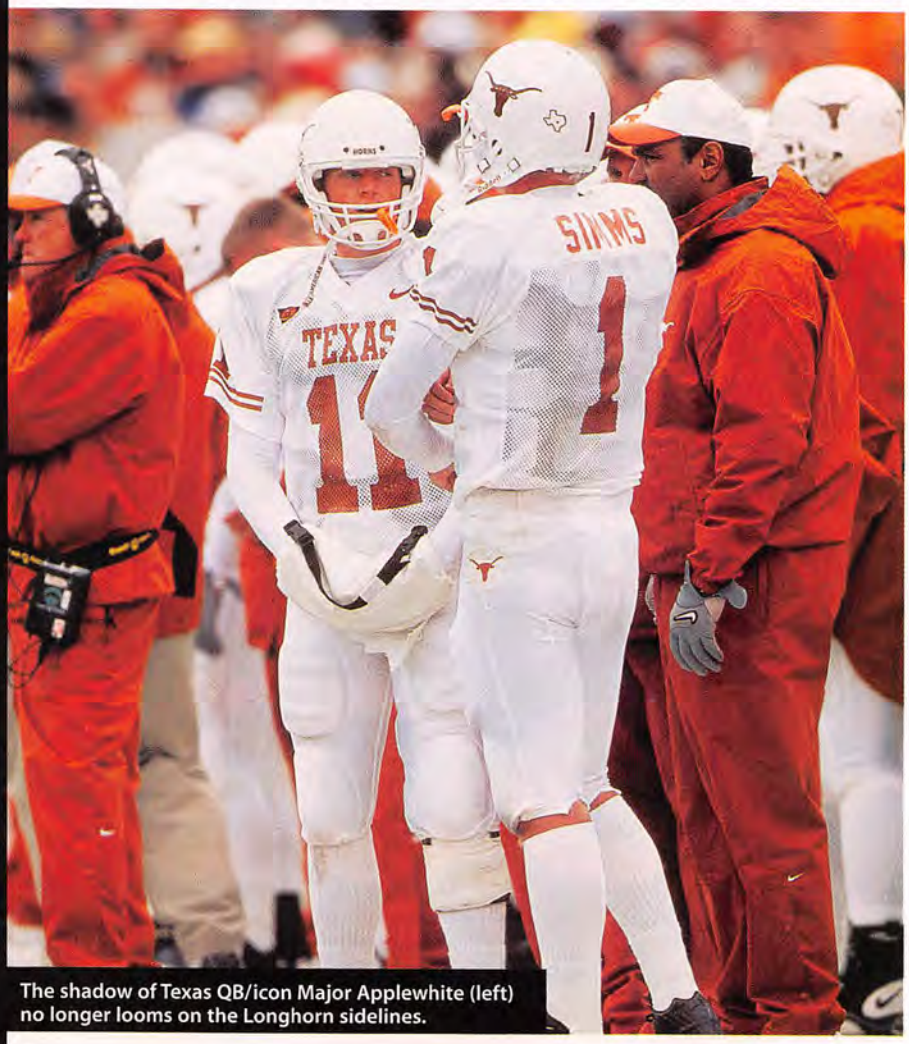
Chris Simms, who lives just across the Hudson River from the Big Apple, and whose father, Phil, was a hero quarterback for the New York Giants, will start for the second year in Austin.

Simms' arm is so much stronger than Applewhite's, it's like comparing a Brahma bull with one of those boxes Gateway computers are packed in. Simms is faster and bigger, but the loudest and longest cheers were always reserved for Applewhite, who made a habit of producing in the clutch.

From Austin to New York, Texas fans have kept a critical eye on Simms, the blond-haired former high school Player of the Year, and an adoring one on Applewhite, the classic over-achiever.

"I had a game against Oklahoma State in which I threw six touchdown passes, broke the school record," says Simms. "By far the biggest cheer of the day was when Major came in. In this town, I think that's just the way it is."

Simms can make Austin his town by overcoming the one flaw in his game: He must prove he can make the big pass in the big game.



The shadow of Texas QB/icon Major Applewhite (left) no longer looms on the Longhorn sidelines.

ICON SPORTS MEDIA

Consider this: In the 10 games in which Simms started and led his team to victory, he completed 181 of 303 passes with 22 touchdowns and four interceptions.

In the two games in which Simms started and Texas lost, he was 33 of 59 with zero touchdowns and seven picks. In those two games, against Oklahoma and Colorado, Simms had open receivers but tried to make the perfect pass instead of just letting it rip.

"You don't know why it happens," says Simms. "It remains a little elusive to me. I watch the films. I see the things that went wrong. I know I can make those throws."

No doubt?

"No doubt," he says.

To that end, he has continued to work on all aspects of his game, with a passion that awes his teammates and silences critics who whisper that Chris is living off of his father's rep.

He lifts weights every morning from 7:30 to 9:15, benching five sets of 255 pounds. He does running and agility drills for 75 minutes in the afternoon. He throws for 90 minutes each night. He studies films like Gene Shalit.

"Chris knows where he wants to go, where he wants to be, and he knows it's just not going to him because he's Phil Simms' son," says Texas wide receiver Roy Williams. "I came home with him for a weekend during the summer. We weren't in the house for an hour before Chris is out back with his dad working on throwing and footwork."

Like father, like son. Chris and Phil have endured quarterback controversies and felt helpless to assist the other. Phil battled Scott Brunner and later Jeff Hostetler for the Giants' starting quarterback job. Chris had to take on Applewhite, who won over Texas fans with his grit and poise.

In Texas, where everything is big, there is nothing bigger than a quarterback controversy. Phil, the former Super Bowl MVP, wishes his son wasn't the center of so much attention.

"I grew up in a different era," Phil recalls. "I was never interviewed by more than one reporter at a time until I got drafted by the Giants. At Morehead State (where he played his college ball), I think I was interviewed five times

ROBERT LEITER

Simms seemingly put Applewhite behind him when he shredded rival Texas A&M's vaunted "Wrecking Ball Defense"...

in my entire career. Let's just say I'm cautious. I don't understand a college player getting so much of the spotlight."

Simms seemingly put Applewhite behind him two years ago when he shredded rival Texas A&M's vaunted "Wrecking Ball Defense" on 16-of-24 passing for 383 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions.

"It was the perfect, perfect stage," says Longhorn cornerback Roderick Babers. "All the guys who had incriminated him in the past were silenced. It was big, really big. He said, 'Man, I'm so happy.' It was like a weight had been lifted off his back. After that game, everyone on the team believed the hype."

The hype was huge going into last year's Oklahoma game. Both teams were undefeated, and the Sooners were clinging to a 7-3 lead late in the game. Then OU's All-America safety, Roy Williams, hit Simms as he was about to pass from his end zone. Sooner linebacker Teddy Lehman intercepted and returned it two yards for a clinching score.

Simms and Texas rebounded to roll to six straight wins, advancing to the Big 12 title game against Colorado. Simms threw three first-half picks and, despite a gallant effort from Applewhite in relief, the Buffaloes held off a late comeback to win 39-37.

Texas coach Mack Brown started Applewhite over Simms in the Holiday Bowl. Simms watched as Texas fans cheered Applewhite and the Longhorns to a 47-43 win.

"It wasn't fun," Chris Simms recalls. "As a quarterback, you consider your teammates your guys. They were my guys for 11 out of 12 games. I didn't get a chance to finish what I started with those guys."

Simms will get to finish what he starts this year. Texas has a stud running back in Cedric Benson, perhaps the best wide receivers in the country and a solid line. He also does not have Applewhite's specter hovering like gnats over a pond.

If he can make the throws, Simms could win the Heisman, and Texas, which plays at North Carolina, Kansas State and Nebraska, could win the national championship.

"It'll be like The Beatles," says Texas student Mike Schuster.

The Beatles were earth's greatest rock band right about the time the Longhorns ruled the gridiron. With another great recruiting class, the Texas program is poised to reclaim its storied past.

Teammate Williams keeps Simms' telephone number stored in his cell phone under the heading of "Mr. Heisman." Simms, who has been nicknamed "The Prince" by teammates, will be treated like royalty.

"I want that to happen," Simms says of the attention and expectations. "I already got the 'no-life part' down. That's the reason you play the game, is to be the best you can be at your position in the country. That's the kind of thing that really wouldn't bother me at all. Because that means that I'm doing something right and people are (fans) of mine."

He might even get cheered on the streets of Manhattan.

STEVE BEYER

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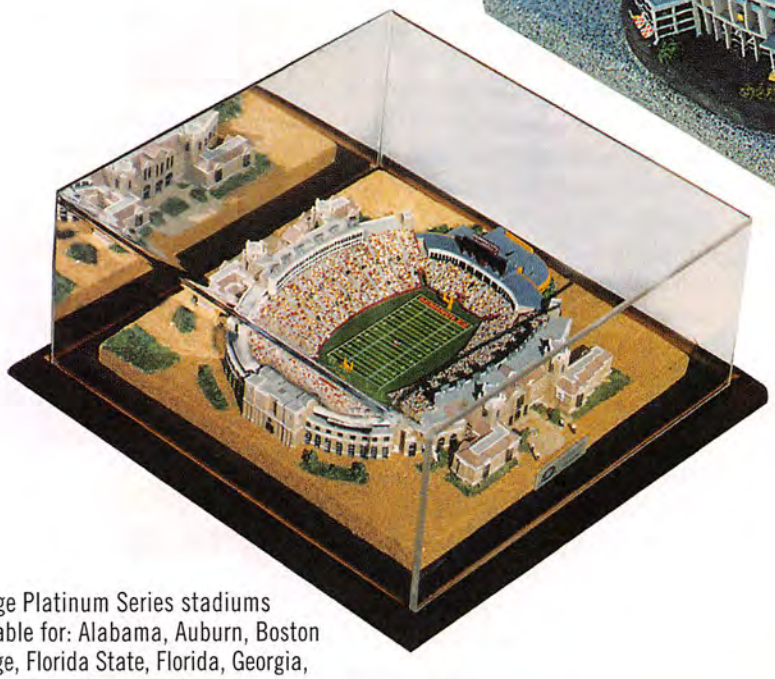

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Order to be restored in wayward league by strong hand of Papa Bowden.

BY JEFF WHITE
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

In the Atlantic Coast Conference, look for this theme to emerge in 2002: *The Empire Strikes Back.*

That would be Florida State, of course, which until last season had never failed to capture at least a share of the ACC title. But the Seminoles couldn't overcome their inexperience—they lost 14 players who made first- or second-team All-ACC in 2000—and stumbled against North Carolina and N.C. State, clearing the way for Maryland, of all teams. The Terrapins hadn't won the ACC title since 1985, but first-year coach Ralph Friedgen took his alma mater on an unforgettable ride. Maryland lost only one ACC game—to FSU—and advanced to the Bowl Championship Series, where it fell 56-23 to Florida in the Orange Bowl.

The Terrapins return linebacker E.J. Henderson, the ACC's Player of the Year in 2001, and tailback Bruce Perry, the league's top offensive player. No matter. Order will be restored this season, which means Florida State will be headed back to the BCS. The Seminoles, with 15 starters returning, plus both kicking specialists, are loaded and could contend for another national championship.

The 2001 season was noteworthy in the ACC not only because of FSU's struggles, but also for the influx of four new coaches: Friedgen, North Carolina's John Bunting, Virginia's Al Groh and Wake Forest's Jim Grobe. Of that group, only Groh didn't guide his team to a winning season. This offseason was quieter for the ACC. Its only new coach is Georgia Tech's Chan Gailey, the former Dallas Cowboys head coach who last worked in the college ranks in 1993. He took over for George O'Leary, whose troubles since leaving Atlanta have been well-documented.

Six ACC teams earned bowl bids last season—a record for the conference—and a seventh, Wake Forest, was bowl-eligible. The ACC went 4-2 in bowls.

Predictions

1. **Florida State**
2. **Maryland**
3. **Georgia Tech**
4. **N.C. State**
5. **Clemson**
6. **Wake Forest**
7. **North Carolina**
8. **Virginia**
9. **Duke**

Games to watch

Florida State at Maryland, September 14
Terrapins took the 2001 ACC crown from the Seminoles.

Georgia Tech at Clemson, September 14
First marquee game in the Chan Gailey era at Tech.

Wake Forest at N.C. State, September 14
This test will help tell if Wake is for real.

All-ACC Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Philip Rivers**, junior, N.C. State	DL—**Darnell Dockett**, junior, Florida State
RB—**Bruce Perry**, junior, Maryland	DL—**Greg Gathers**, senior, Georgia Tech
RB—**Tarence Williams**, senior, Wake Forest	DL—**Calvin Pace**, senior, Wake Forest
WR—**Billy McMullen**, senior, Virginia	DL—**Nick Eason**, senior, Clemson
WR—**Talman Gardner**, senior, Florida State	LB—**E.J. Henderson**, senior, Maryland
TE—**Jeff Dugan**, junior, Maryland	LB—**Angelo Crowell**, senior, Virginia
OL—**Brett Williams**, senior, Florida State	LB—**Kendyll Pope**, junior, Florida State
OL—**Montrae Holland**, senior, Florida State	DB—**Terrence Holt**, senior, N.C. State
OL—**Todd Wike**, senior, Maryland	DB—**Jeremy Muyres**, senior, Georgia Tech
OL—**Nat Dorsey**, sophomore, Georgia Tech	DB—**Michael Waddell**, senior, North Carolina
OL—**Kevin Bailey**, junior, Virginia	DB—**Stanford Samuels**, junior, Florida State
PK—**Xavier Beitia**, sophomore, Florida State	P—**Brooks Barnard**, senior, Maryland

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Airese Currie**, Clemson
Best hands: **Billy McMullen**, WR, Virginia
Best passing QB: **Chris Rix**, Florida State
Best option QB: **Cory Randolph**, Wake Forest
Most elusive RB: **Bruce Perry**, Maryland
Best instincts: **Terrence Holt**, DB, N.C. State
Best athlete: **Michael Waddell**, DB, North Carolina
Best under pressure: **Philip Rivers**, QB, N.C. State
Top NFL prospect: **Darnell Dockett**, DT, Florida State
Top impact freshman: **Ahmad Brooks**, LB, Virginia
Hardest hitter: **E.J. Henderson**, LB, Maryland
Biggest underachiever: **Nick Maddox**, RB, Florida State

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Ralph Friedgen**, Maryland
Best recruiter: **Bobby Bowden**, Florida State
Coach on the spot: **Tommy Bowden**, Clemson

Don't be surprised if...

. . . the wonderfully named **Damarius Bilbo**, a redshirt freshman, beats out Tennessee transfer **A.J. Suggs** for the starting quarterback job at Georgia Tech.

One man's opinion

"North Carolina defensively won't be very good. It's tough enough to replace Peppers and Sims, but you also gotta replace seven guys who were seasoned seniors."

—an ACC assistant coach

Rating the recruits

1. Florida State
Another top 10 class for Papa Bowden.

2. Virginia
Groh and Co. land four *Parade* All-Americans.

3. Clemson
Tigers close strong and land a top 20 class.

4. N.C. State
Potentially strong class has many academic question marks.

5. Maryland
Junior college QB Orlando Evans heads solid group.

6. North Carolina
Late losses cause for disappointment in Chapel Hill.

7. Georgia Tech
Only five of Gailey's 15 recruits are from Georgia.

8. Wake Forest
LB Bryan Andrews is Wake's first *Parade* All-American since 1983.

9. Duke
Franks calls this his best class.

1 Florida State

The Seminoles (8-4 overall, 6-2 ACC) ended a disappointing season on a high note by beating Virginia Tech 30-17 in the Gator Bowl. They're likely to end this season in their customary place, the Bowl Championship Series. Not only does Florida State's legendary coach, Bobby Bowden, return seven starters on offense and eight on defense, he regains the services of gifted receivers Anquan Boldin (41 catches for 664 yards in 2000) and Robert Morgan (19 for 366), both of whom missed last season with injuries. Also back for FSU are punter Chance Gwaltney (40.1-yard average) and placekicker Xavier Beitia, who as a freshman last season made good on 13 of 14 field goal attempts.

More good news for FSU: Most of sophomore quarterback Chris Rix's growing pains should be behind him. Inconsistent at times last season, the strong-armed Rix, also a dangerous runner, still led the ACC in passing efficiency, had 3,213 yards of total offense and was named the conference's Rookie of the Year. He'll operate behind five returning starters on the offensive line, an elite group led by all-conference picks Brett Williams (tackle) and Montrae Holland (guard).

In addition to Boldin and Morgan, other top-flight receivers at FSU include Talman Gardner (33 catches for 649 yards and 11 TDs in 2001), Craphonso Thorpe and P.K. Sam. And when the 'Noles decide to run—they often prefer to move the ball through the air—they have two of the ACC's better tailbacks in Nick Maddox and Greg Jones. Maddox, a burner, started 10 games last season, and the bruising Jones (6-1, 243 pounds) rushed for a team-high 713 yards.

Only one of defensive coordinator Mickey Andrews' eight returning starters is a senior. The Seminoles were uncharacteristically vulnerable on defense last season, mainly because of their woeful pass rush. FSU tied winless Duke for the fewest sacks (15) by an ACC team. Maryland, by contrast, recorded 38 sacks. Andrews should be happier this season. His front four returns intact, and it features All-America candidate Darnell Dockett at tackle, three-year starter Jeff Womble at nose guard and senior end Alonzo Jackson, who had a superb spring. The linebacking corps, led by juniors Kendyll Pope and Michael Boulware, looks strong, too. In the secondary, starting cornerbacks Rufus Brown and Stanford Samuels return.

With his next victory, Bowden will pass Bear Bryant and become the second-winningest coach in major college history, trailing only Penn State's Joe Paterno. Don't be surprised if Bowden overtakes JoePa this season, too.

***Chris Rix,** Florida State*

PRESTON MACK/BASP

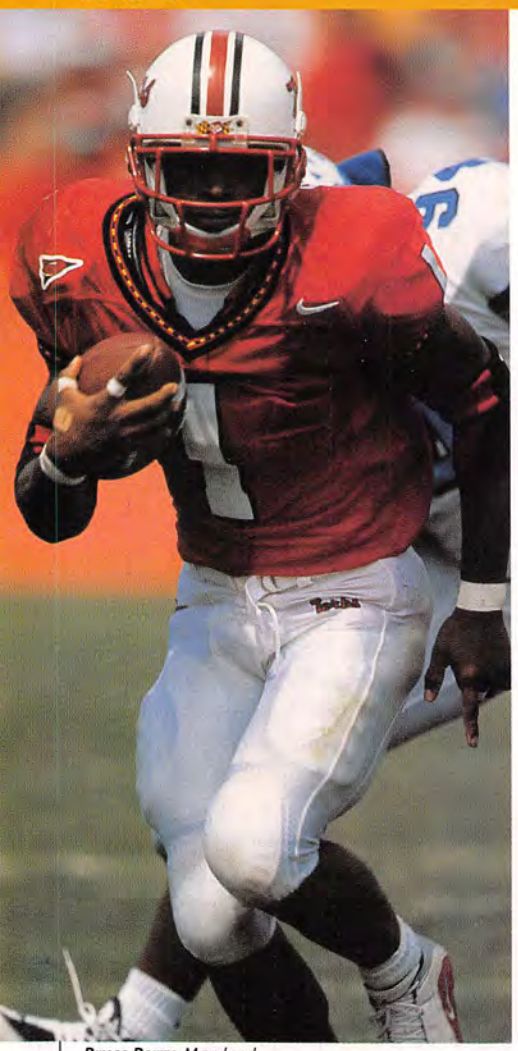
2 Maryland

Maybe Ralph Friedgen should have ridden off into the sunset after last season. He may never, after all, replicate the magic of his first year as coach at his alma mater. But Friedgen, the national Coach of the Year in 2001, chose to return, of course, and he has more than enough talent on hand—eight returning starters on offense, five on defense—to keep the defending ACC champion Terrapins (10-2, 7-1) among the league's premier teams.

Shaun Hill, who supplied savvy and leadership at quarterback, is gone, but All-America linebacker E.J. Henderson put the NFL on hold and returned for his senior year, and junior tailback Bruce Perry, the ACC's Offensive Player of the Year, is back, too. Neither, however, had an ideal offseason. Henderson, the ACC Player of the Year, had surgery in April to repair bone spurs in his back and might miss the August 31 opener against Notre Dame. Perry, the first Terp to lead the ACC in rushing since 1980, missed winter workouts and spring drills because of an abdominal injury.

Assuming Perry (1,242 yards rushing and 358 yards receiving in 2001) is healthy, Friedgen's biggest concern on offense is finding a capable replacement for Hill (second-team All-ACC), whose steady play helped the Terps lead the ACC in scoring and total offense. The favorite, sophomore Chris Kelley, tore a ligament in his right knee at the end of drills and will not be ready to start the season. West Virginia transfer Scott McBrien is the likely starter in the opener, with juco Orlando Evans in reserve.

The new QB will operate behind a line that lost All-ACC center Melvin Fowler but returns four starters, including all-conference performers Todd Wike (guard) and Matt Crawford (tackle).



Bruce Perry, *Maryland*

Talented tight end Jeff Dugan is also back, as are junior fullback James Lynch (6.8 yards per carry) and wideout Jafar Williams (39 catches for 425 yards).

Defensive coordinator Gary Blackney faces a sterner challenge than his offensive counterpart, Charlie Taaffe. Henderson's early-season status is uncertain, and Maryland's defense, the ACC's best against the run in 2001, lost six starters, including tackle Charles Hill, its second-leading tackler. Henderson and Leon Joe are back at linebacker, but the secondary, which lost three starters—two of them first-team All-ACC picks—must be rebuilt. The addition of safety Madieu Williams, a transfer from Division I-AA Towson, will help.

The Terrapins placed seven players on the All-ACC first team in 2001, one more than they had combined in the six previous seasons. That group included Brooks Barnard, who led the conference in punting with a 44.5-yard average. Kicker Nick Novak didn't earn postseason honors, but he led the ACC in scoring (8.1 ppg) and made 12 of his final 14 field goal attempts, missing only from 50 and 62 yards. Both Barnard and Novak are back, another reason to like Maryland's chances this season.

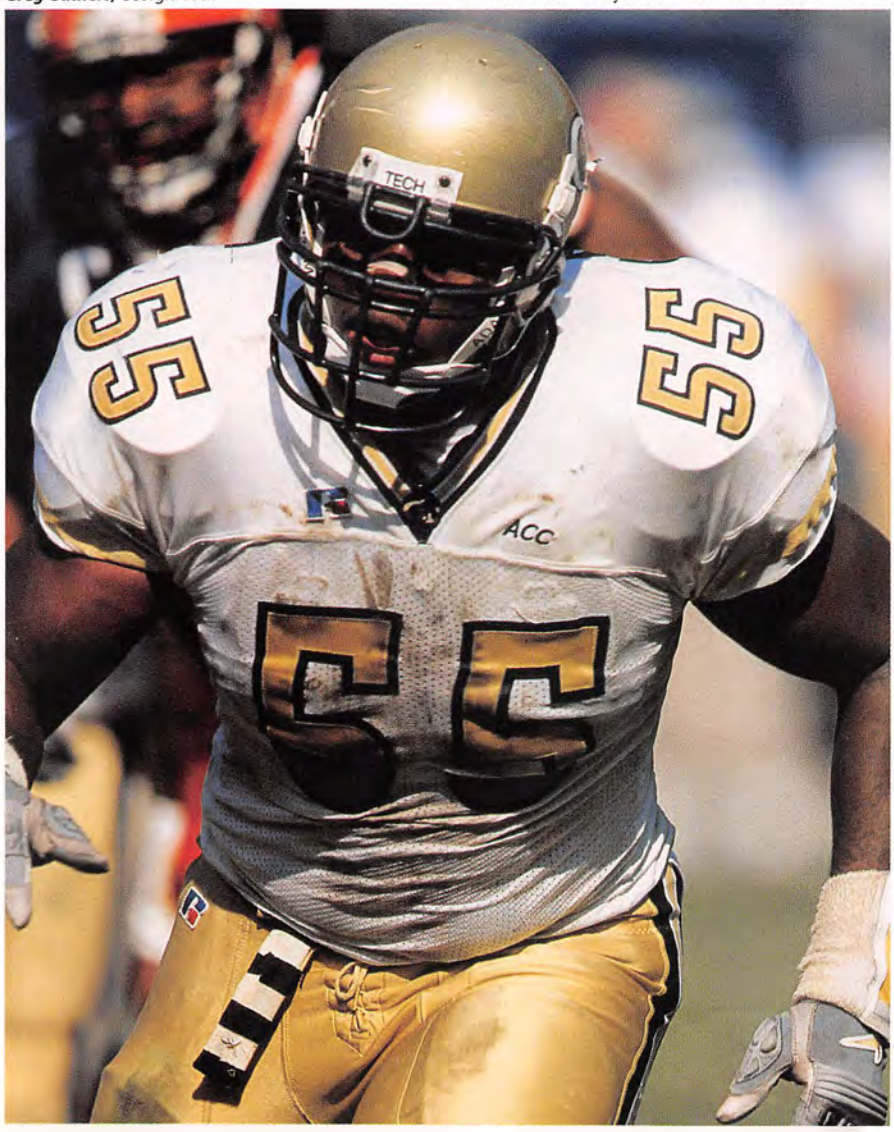
3 Georgia Tech

Their victory over Stanford in the inaugural Seattle Bowl notwithstanding, the Yellow Jackets (8-5, 4-4) were unquestionably the ACC's biggest disappointment in 2001. Georgia Tech had 18 returning starters, among them record-setting quarterback George Godsey, and was touted as a Top 10 team and an ACC title contender. It proved to be neither. The Ramblin' Wreck dropped three of its final four regular-season games and finished in a three-way tie for fourth. Then came a rocky offseason in which the Jackets' coach, George O'Leary, bolted for his dream job at Notre Dame, where his tenure ended almost immediately after it began.

Of the ACC's four new coaches in 2001, two (Virginia's Al Groh and North Carolina's John Bunting) came from the NFL, and that's where Tech's new leader, Chan Gailey, spent most of the past 15 years. The Gainesville, Georgia, native went 18-14 in a two-year stint as the Dallas Cowboys' head coach, and he's distinguished himself in college, too. In 1984, Gailey guided Troy State to the Division II national title.

Georgia Tech won't win a national championship this season, but O'Leary left plenty of talent behind, particularly on defense. New defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta held the same post last year at North Carolina, which led the ACC in total defense. Tenuta inherited nine returning starters in Atlanta, including All-America end Greg Gathers and two-time all-conference safety Jeremy Muyres. Gathers led the ACC with 10 sacks in 2001 and is Georgia Tech's career leader with 30. Other veterans include linebackers Recardo Wimbush, Daryl Smith and Keyaron Fox and cornerback

Greg Gathers, *Georgia Tech*



STEVE BEYER (2)

Marvious Hester, who led the Jackets with three interceptions last year.

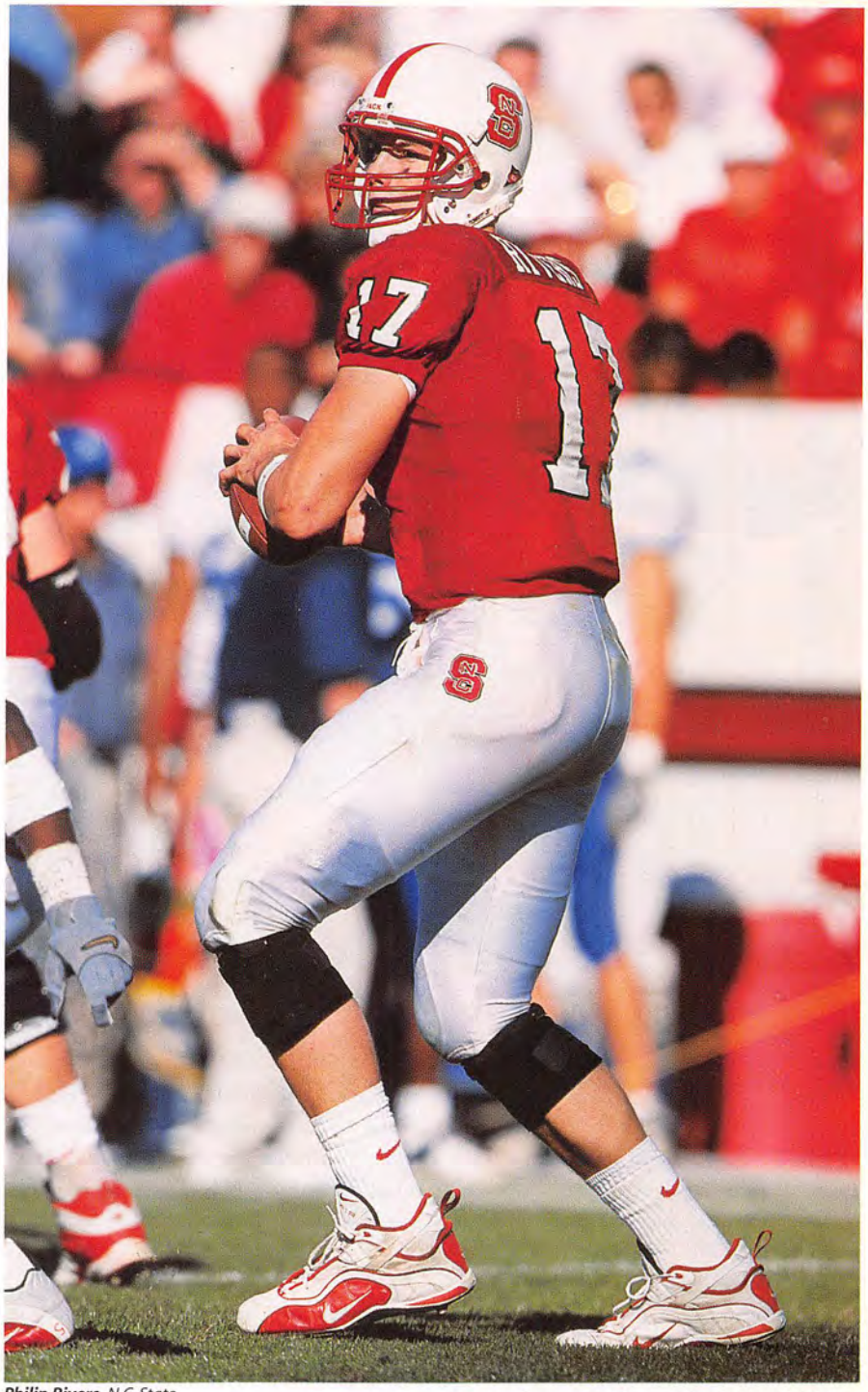
Tech's offense, with only five returning starters, has more question marks. Godsey, who passed for 6,137 yards in his college career, graduated, leaving Tennessee transfer A.J. Suggs and redshirt freshman Damarius Bilbo to battle for the starting job. Massive sophomore tackle Nat Dorsey (6-6, 315 pounds)—only the ninth true freshman in ACC history to make first-team all-conference—is back to anchor the line, but the Jackets are breaking in two guards and a tight end. They also have to replace tailback Joe Burns and wideout Kelly Campbell, two of the most productive players in school history.

Burns, who left early for the NFL, ranks fourth on Tech's career rushing list, and Campbell stands No. 3 on the ACC's career receptions list. Candidates for Burns' old job include senior Sidney Ford and junior Tony Hollings, a reserve defensive back in 2000 and '01. The rest of the ACC is delighted to see Campbell gone, but the Jackets are extraordinarily deep at his position, with such standouts as Jonathan Smith (53 catches for 590 yards last season), William Glover (13 catches for 172 yards against Virginia), Kerry Watkins (100 career catches) and Nate Curry. Curry missed last season with a knee injury after catching 22 passes for 298 yards as a freshman in 2000.

Georgia Tech's special teams again should rank among the ACC's best. All-conference kicker Luke Manget enters his senior season having made an ACC-record 131 straight extra points. Senior punter Dan Dyke's career average is 42.3 yards, and senior Kelley Rhino, a third-generation football player at Tech (father Randy was an All-America), set an ACC record with 515 yards on 48 punt returns last season. He also returned seven kickoffs for a 21.7-yard average.

4 N.C. State

The Wolfpack, which lost to Pittsburgh in last season's Tangerine Bowl, has never won more than nine games in a season. Don't be shocked if it equals or breaks that school record this year—and not because third-year coach Chuck Amato has an exceptionally talented team. N.C. State (7-5, 4-4) plays a 13-game schedule that includes non-conference dates with two Division I-AA teams (East Tennessee State and Massachussetts) and three I-A squads (New Mexico, Navy and Texas Tech) that won't be found in anyone's Top 25. The Pack could well be 6-0 when it travels to North Carolina on October 12.



Philip Rivers, *N.C. State*

This may not be a championship-caliber team, but any team with Philip Rivers at quarterback is dangerous. It may seem as if Rivers has been around forever, but he's only a junior—though you wouldn't know it from his numbers. A third-year starter, he's already passed for 5,640 yards—good for 21st on the ACC's all-time list—and 41 touchdowns.

Rivers is among five returning starters on offense. (A sixth, Troy Graham, was switched from wideout to safety during spring practice.) Among the starters lost, tailback Ray Robinson will be the toughest to replace. Robinson led the Wolfpack in rushing, receptions, all-purpose yardage and scoring. Senior Cotra Jackson is Robinson's likely successor, but he'll be pushed by true freshman T.A. McLendon, who set several national prep records, including career rushing TDs (170) and career points (1,070).

In Bryan Peterson and Jerrico Cotchery, Rivers has two proven receivers. How much time Rivers will have to find them is uncertain. N.C. State must replace three starters on the offensive line, plus tight end Willie Wright (second-team

Derrick Hamilton, *Clemson*

All-ACC). Junior tackle Chris Colmer is the 'Pack's top returning lineman.

No such uncertainty surrounds the defensive line. Amato has four senior ends, led by George Anderson, who had 11 tackles for loss in 2001, and Shawn Price, who had 10. Terrance Martin, co-defensive MVP of the Tangerine Bowl, returns at tackle. The Wolfpack lost two starting linebackers, including first-team All-America Levar Fisher, but senior Dantonio Burnett will continue his assault on the school's record books. The undersized Burnette (5-10, 228) ranks eighth in career tackles at N.C. State with 332.

The strength of Amato's defense should be the secondary, where four players who started at least four games in 2001 return. The best is All-ACC safety Terrence Holt, a sure tackler and special-teams dynamo. Holt, brother of former Wolfpack great Torry Holt, has blocked nine kicks in his career. Julius Patterson is back at rover, and J.J. Washington and Marcus Hudson started 10 games between them at left cornerback. With punter Austin Herbert and kicker Adam Kiker back, N.C. State's special teams should be among the best in the league.

5 Clemson

Tommy Bowden is the only coach to have led the Tigers to a bowl in each of his first three seasons. Yet an appearance in the Humanitarian Bowl—in which Clemson crushed Louisiana Tech last year—is not what booster club members envisioned when Bowden was hired to replace Tommy West. Nor was the fan base thrilled to see the Tigers, after rising to No. 13 in the AP poll, lose four of its final six regular-season games in 2001.

Clemson (7-5, 4-4), which has no all-conference players returning, lost six: first-teamer Woodrow Dantzler (quarterback) and second-teamers Akil Smith (offensive tackle), Will Merritt (offensive guard), Kyle Young (center), Chad Carson (linebacker) and Charles Hafley (safety). Dantzler was easily the most decorated of that group. The only player in Division I history to rush for 1,000 yards and pass for 2,000 in a season, he left Clemson as its all-time leader in total offense, passing yardage, completions, completion percentage and passing efficiency.

That's a tough act to follow, but Dantzler's successor is no rookie. Junior Willie Simmons has passed for 914 yards and nine TDs in 13 career games. He's not the runner Dantzler is—how many quarterbacks are?—but he's a proficient passer who'll benefit from perhaps the most talented receiving corps in Clemson history. Simmons' targets include sophomores Derrick Hamilton, Roscoe Crosby and Airese Currie, plus junior Kevin Youngblood and senior Jackie Robinson. Also back is sophomore tight end Ben Hall, who like Hamilton was a Freshman All-America. Hamilton led the Tigers with 49 catches for 590 yards and also averaged an ACC-best 31.7 yards per kickoff return, which ranked third nationally.

Senior Bernard Rambert, who rushed for 101 yards in the Humanitarian Bowl, takes over at tailback for Travis Zachery. Returning starters on the offensive line are tackle Derrick Brantley and Gary Byrd, both seniors.

James MacPherson, *Wake Forest*

LEFT TO RIGHT: ROBERT LEITER; JEFF FISHBEIN

Clemson has a new defensive coordinator, John Lovett, who had successful stints at Mississippi and Auburn. In his new post, Lovett has inherited eight returning starters, which, as they say, could be good news or bad news. Among ACC teams, the Tigers finished ahead of only winless Duke in scoring defense and ranked seventh in total defense. A repeat is unlikely.

After recording only 20 sacks last fall, Clemson should have a stronger pass rush. Three starters return up front, led by end Bryant McNeal, whose eight sacks ranked third in the ACC. Injuries marred tackle Nick Eason's 2001 season, but he's an all-conference candidate when healthy. At linebacker, starters John Leake (134 tackles) and Rodney Thomas (100) are back. Returning starters in the secondary are safety Eric Meekins and cornerbacks Kevin Johnson and Brian Mance, who's also one of the nation's better return men. Altroy Bodrick, a former starter at linebacker, has been moved to strong safety. He missed last season with a torn ACL.

Clemson's kicking game looks solid, if unspectacular. Both specialists return: junior kicker Aaron Hunt (18-for-25 in career field goals) and senior punter Wynn Kopp (39.3-yard average in 2001). The Tigers allowed only one punt return of longer than 15 yards last season.

6 Wake Forest

Maryland's Ralph Friedgen was the clear choice for the ACC's Coach-of-the-Year award last season, but Jim Grobe merited serious consideration. In his first season at Wake Forest, which won more than five games only once in eight seasons under his predecessor, Jim Caldwell, Grobe quickly pointed the program in a different direction. Wake, 2-9 in 2000, opened with a stunning victory at East Carolina and went on to finish above .500 for only the second time since 1992. Highlights included the greatest comeback in school history, a 32-31 victory at North Carolina in which Wake trailed 24-0 at halftime.

Can the Demon Deacons (6-5, 3-5) post a second straight winning season? They haven't done so since the late '80s, but they have 16 starters returning, the most of any ACC team, and boast an impressive stable of tailbacks. The element of surprise is gone, though, and no one will underestimate Wake in Grobe's second season.

The Deacons led the ACC in rushing (221.6 yards per game), and will have a formidable ground game again. Eight starters return on offense, including senior tailback Tarence Williams, a 1,000-yard rusher. His backup, Fred Staton, ran for 583 yards and seven TDs.

Darian Durant, *North Carolina*

Anthony Young has moved from quarterback to wideout, which should help compensate for the loss of speedy John Stone, and Wake has two other big-play receivers in Jason Anderson and Fabian Davis. Anderson (28 catches for 472 yards) was the first freshman to lead the Deacons in receiving since 1978.

On the line, All-ACC guard Michael Collins is gone, but three starters return—guard Blake Henry and tackles Mark Moroz and Tyson Clabo—along with tight end Ray Thomas. Depth, a perennial problem at Wake, could be an issue again. Young's move to receiver leaves the quarterback's job in the hands of senior James MacPherson, who passed for 1,555 yards last season but threw more interceptions (11) than touchdowns (five). Redshirt freshman Cory Randolph, MacPherson's understudy, is a natural in Grobe's option attack.

Wake, which starts three defensive linemen, placed both of its ends on the All-ACC second team last year. Nate Bolling is gone, but Calvin Pace is among eight starters back for defensive coordinator Dean Hood. Five of them are backs who played together in a nickel package for the final six games: junior Obi Chukwumah and sophomores Quintin Williams, Caron Bracy, Eric King and Marcus McGruder. Kellen Brantley is the only returning starter at linebacker, but Brad White, a transfer from Georgia, impressed during spring practice. Montique Sharpe, who had five sacks, returns at nose tackle.

Collins, Stone and Bolling were the most heralded of Wake's departing players, but kicker Tyler Ashe, who didn't earn all-conference honors, will be missed, too. Ashe made 11 of 14 field goal attempts and 33 of 34 extra points last season.

7 North Carolina

After falling into an 0-3 hole last season, their first under alumnus John Bunting, the Tar Heels climbed out and took their frustration out on opponents. North Carolina (8-5, 5-3) closed the regular season with seven wins in its final nine games—the most impressive being a 41-9

rout of Florida State—and then beat Auburn 16-10 in the Peach Bowl. All seemed well in Chapel Hill, but a tumultuous offseason followed.

Offensive line coach Robbie Caldwell left for Vanderbilt. Defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta, under whose direction UNC led the ACC in total defense, took the same position at Georgia Tech. Starting offensive tackle Greg Woofter transferred out of the program. The projected starter at quarterback, Darian Durant, left the team in February, vowing the transfer, but later reversed field and returned to Carolina. As if that wasn't a full plate, several of the Tar Heels' top recruiting targets opted for other schools, including cornerback A.J. Davis, who reneged on a commitment to UNC and signed with N.C. State.

Bunting had enough issues to deal with already. He and new defensive coordinator Dave Huxtable, Carolina's linebackers coach in 2001, have to replace eight defensive starters. Gone are such notables as Julius Peppers (end) and Ryans Sims (tackle)—two of the first six players selected in the NFL Draft—and linebackers David Thornton (fourth-round pick) and Quincy Monk (seventh round), the team's No. 1 and No. 2 tacklers, respectively. Peppers, a consensus All-America and Lombardi Trophy winner, gave up his final year of eligibility to enter the NFL. His bookend up front, Joey Evans, was a seventh-round NFL pick. The only returning starter among the front seven is tackle Will Chapman, who tore his ACL last October 20 and had to sit out spring practice.

The secondary, at least, should be one of the ACC's best. Kevin Knight, the team's third-leading returning tackler, joins Michael Waddell at cornerback, and Dexter Reid returns at safety. Waddell made the All-ACC second team and was second in the conference in pass breakups with 14.

Durant's decision to return to UNC bolsters what should be a potent offense. Carolina no longer has mercurial quarterback Ronald Curry, its all-time leader in passing yardage (4,987) and total offense (6,125), but Durant might be better. He split time with Curry as a redshirt freshman last season and was named ACC Rookie of the Week six times.

Durant completed 63.7 percent of his passes, throwing for 1,843 yards and 17 TDs. He's likely to start, but challenging for the job is 6-foot-3 junior C.J. Stephens, a transfer from Florida. Around the QBs are seven returning starters, and that group doesn't include returnee Sam Aiken, Carolina's leading receiver in 2001 (46 catches for 789 yards and eight TDs). Tailbacks Andre Williams (team-high 520 yards rushing) and Willie Parker and fullback Madison Hedgecock return. Parker played well at the end of last season. Returning starters Willie McNeill, Jeb Terry and Jupiter Wilson, none of them seniors, form the heart of a young line whose lack of depth might be Bunting's biggest concern. Zach Hilton returns at tight end, while Bosley Allen (39 catches for 562 yards) is back at receiver.

A newcomer to watch is redshirt freshman Jarwarski Pollack, a 5-8 receiver and high school teammate of Allen's who was extremely impressive and hard to catch in spring practice.

8 Virginia

When he took the job as coach at his alma mater in December 2000, Al Groh promised to recruit relentlessly and tirelessly, and he's been true to his word. Virginia landed a top 10 class in February, and that talent should one day help lift this program back among the ACC's elite.

Don't look for it to happen this season, however. The Cavaliers recruited poorly during the final years of the George Welsh era, and they're paying the price for that lackluster effort. Virginia (5-7, 3-5), coming off its first losing season since 1986, figures to finish below .500 again. Nine of the 13 teams on its schedule played in bowls last season.

Virginia has only eight seniors. Among ACC teams, only Duke has fewer. Groh can field solid starting units on both sides of the ball, but he has virtually no proven reserves, and a rash of injuries could be disastrous for the Cavaliers. At least 15 true freshmen are likely to play this season, if only to accelerate their development.

The Cavaliers struggled last season, in large part, because they could neither run the ball nor stop the run. Look for improvement in both areas this season. Alvin Pearman, Virginia's leading rusher as a true freshman in 2001, is among seven returning starters on offense, and Groh wants a more balanced attack. With star tailback Antwoine Womack injured most of last season, UVa threw a school-record 451 passes (completing 263) but finished last among ACC teams in rushing offense. Bryson Spinner and Matt Schaub split time at quarterback, but Spinner

Alvin Pearman, *Virginia*

KEVIN REECE

left the program in December, so the job belongs to Schaub.

The 6-5 junior will look often to senior wideout Billy McMullen, the Cavs' only first-team All-ACC pick last season. McMullen's 83 receptions were the second most ever by an ACC player, and he had 12 TD catches. Other targets include wideouts Michael McGrew and Ottowa Anderson and sophomore tight end Patrick Estes. The offense's biggest question marks are on the line. Returning starters Mike Mullins, Elton Brown and Kevin Bailey form a strong nucleus, but there's little experience behind them.

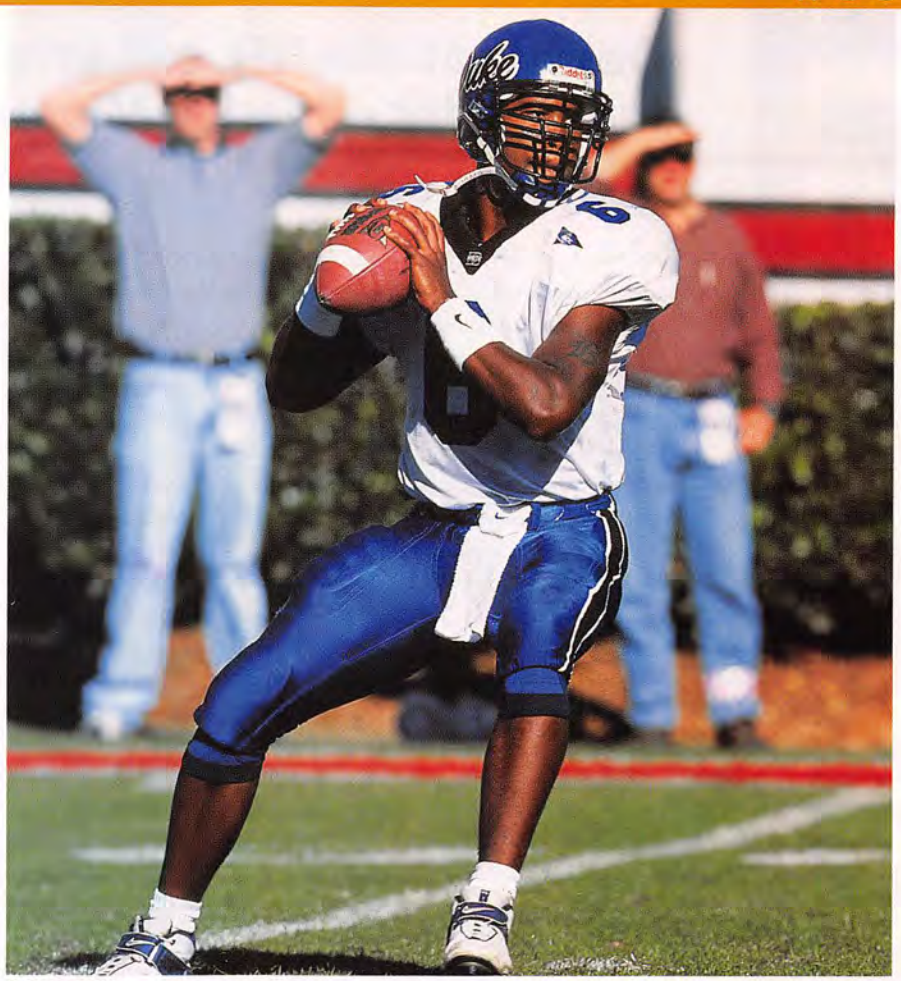
The line is the defense's biggest concern. The projected starters up front in Virginia's 3-4 scheme—ends Chris Canty and Larry Simmons and nose tackle Andrew Hoffman—have zero starts among them, though they're bigger than their predecessors and should be better against the run. Their backups are even less seasoned, and the two-deep is likely to include true freshmen. The situation is more stable at linebacker, where three starters return, led by senior Angelo Crowell. A second-team All-ACC pick, Crowell made a school-record 144 tackles in 2001. True freshmen Ahmad Brooks and Kai Parham, both *Parade* All-Americans, will supply depth, size and speed at linebacker.

Virginia's secondary returns intact and should be much improved. Shernard Newby, one of three senior safeties, made the All-ACC second team last season and had the most interceptions (five) of any returning player in the conference. Others back include cornerbacks Art Thomas, Jermaine Hardy and Almondo Curry, and safeties Jerton Evans and Chris Williams. At punter, true freshman Tom Hagan is the probable replacement for Mike Abrams, second-team All-ACC in 2001. Placekicker David Greene graduated, too, and his responsibilities might be divided between two or more players.

9 Duke

Carl Franks doesn't like to talk about it, and who can blame him? The Streak hangs like a cloud over Franks' program at his alma mater. The Blue Devils (0-8, 0-11) have dropped 23 straight games, the longest losing streak in Division I-A. They play a school-record 12 regular-season games this year, and their best opportunity to win might come September 28 at Navy.

Duke opened a new football support facility this year, and Franks is convinced his program is headed in the right direction. Still, a breakthrough—a four-win season, for example—is unlikely to come in 2002. Not only does Duke have to play East Carolina, Louisville and Northwestern outside the conference, it has only two seniors, by far the fewest of any ACC team. About 65 of its players are true freshmen, redshirt freshmen or sophomores. The Blue Devils had only one all-conference player in 2001—first-team tight end Mike Hart—and he's gone. Still, numerous starters return, including both kicking specialists.



D. Bryant, *Duke*

Franks has a new defensive coordinator, Ted Roof, who held that position at Georgia Tech from 1999 to 2001. Roof faces a mammoth challenge. Duke allowed an ACC-record 491 points last season, an average of 44.6 per game that ranked 114th in Division I-A. Each of the Blue Devils' final six opponents scored 42 or more points.

In an attempt to field a faster defense, Roof and Franks made numerous position changes. They include: Jim Scharrer, Micah Harris and Chad Rice to defensive end; running backs Brendan Dewan and Jamin Pastore to outside linebacker and cornerback, respectively; outside linebacker Ryan Fowler to inside linebacker, and cornerback Terrell Smith to safety.

Fowler, a junior, led Duke in tackles in 2000 and '01. Scharrer was a fourth-team Freshman All-America last year. Still at inside linebacker is senior Jamyon Small, the Blue Devils' second-leading tackler in 2001.

The other half of Franks' senior class is quarterback D. Bryant, a three-year starter who ranks seventh in career passing yardage (3,902) at Duke. Bryant completed 48.7 percent of his attempts last season, passing for 2,454 yards and 11 TDs, but he also threw 17 interceptions. More consistent was the team's top threat, junior tailback Chris Douglas. He amassed 841 yards rushing, 233 receiving and 775 on kickoff returns to lead the ACC in all-purpose yardage.

In addition to Bryant and Douglas, Duke returns seven players who started at least four games on offense last season: center Luke Bayer, guards Rusty Wilson and Daryl Lewis, tackle Drew Strojny, tight end Nick Brzezinski and receivers Khary Sharpe and Reggie Love. Also back is reserve tailback Alex Wade, a 250-pounder who was second on the team in rushing and fourth in scoring last season.

Duke racked up 500 yards of total offense in consecutive games against Vanderbilt and N.C. State, so scoring points may not be the problem this season. How well the Devils fare may hinge on how much their defense improves. ■

Despite all the NFL call-ups, don't cry for reloaded Miami.

BY MIKE HARRIS
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

The Big East Conference notes with pride that it has had a member in the national championship game two of the past three seasons. Miami rolled through 2001 unbeaten and then claimed the big prize with its rout of Nebraska in the Rose Bowl.

To those who say Miami lost too much for a repeat, consider this: Four members of the 2000 Miami team were picked in the first round of the NFL Draft. That is quite a lot to lose, but Miami somehow managed to survive quite nicely.

Bolstered by an outstanding recruiting class, Miami remains a national championship contender. It figures to be the only Big East team with a shot this season.

The league has a bunch of teams—Syracuse, Virginia Tech, Boston College and Pittsburgh—that could be very good if some huge question marks are answered satisfactorily. All suffered personnel losses that could end up cutting deep. Each team will be missing a player who went quickly in the NFL Draft. Heck, Syracuse will be missing almost its entire offense.

West Virginia is looking to rebound from a very disappointing 2001 season. Temple seems to have reached a plateau that it can't escape and Rutgers remains very much a work-in-progress. The difference between the Big East's "haves" and "have-nots" is wide.

The league's coaching lineup remains intact.

Paul Pasqualoni at Syracuse, whose Coach-of-the-Year-caliber season was trumped by Miami's Larry Coker, was apparently at the top of the list of calls Notre Dame would have made had it not reached a deal with Tyrone Willingham.

Frank Beamer, after the previous year's flirtation with North Carolina, didn't let his eyes wander from his home at Virginia Tech.

Bobby Wallace of Temple could develop a case of wanderlust if the Owls' league situation isn't settled soon. Recruiting will only become more difficult at Temple until the Owls know for sure where they'll play when they depart the Big East after the 2004 season.

Predictions

1. Miami
2. Syracuse
3. Virginia Tech
4. Boston College
5. Pittsburgh
6. West Virginia
7. Temple
8. Rutgers

Games to watch

Boston College at Pittsburgh, October 26
With bowl bids at a premium, this one's loser could be home for the holidays.

Miami at Syracuse, November 30
Possible championship-decider.

Virginia Tech at Miami, December 7
Annually the league's marquee matchup.

All-Big East Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
WR—**Andre Johnson**, junior, Miami	DL—**Jerome McDougle**, senior, Miami
WR—**Sean Dillard**, senior, Temple	DL—**Dan Klecko**, senior, Temple
OL—**Brett Romberg**, senior, Miami	DL—**Cols Colas**, junior, Virginia Tech
OL—**Sherko Haji-Rasouli**, senior, Miami	DL—**William Joseph**, senior, Miami
OL—**Dan Koppen**, senior, Boston College	LB—**Jonathan Vilma**, junior, Miami
OL—**Marc Parenteau**, senior, Boston College	LB—**Gerald Hayes**, senior, Pittsburgh
OL—**Lance Nimmo**, senior, West Virginia	LB—**Clifton Smith**, senior, Syracuse
TE—**L. J. Smith**, senior, Rutgers	DB—**Willie Pile**, senior, Virginia Tech
QB—**Ken Dorsey**, senior, Miami	DB—**Keeon Walker**, senior, Syracuse
RB—**Avon Cobourne**, senior, West Virginia	DB—**Torrie Cox**, senior, Pittsburgh
RB—**Lee Suggs**, junior, Virginia Tech	DB—**DeAngelo Hall**, sophomore, Virginia Tech
K—**Todd Sievers**, senior, Miami	P—**Freddie Capshaw**, senior, Miami
KR—**Torrie Cox**, senior, Pittsburgh	

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Andre Johnson**, WR, Miami
Best hands: **Kellen Winslow Jr.**, TE, Miami
Best passing QB: **Ken Dorsey**, Miami
Best option QB: **R.J. Anderson**, Syracuse
Most elusive RB: **Kevin Jones**, Virginia Tech
Best instincts: **Lee Suggs**, RB, Virginia Tech
Best athlete: **DeAngelo Hall**, DB, Virginia Tech
Best under pressure: **R.J. Anderson**, QB, Syracuse
Top NFL prospect: **William Joseph**, DL, Miami
Top impact freshman: **Larry Fitzgerald**, WR, Pittsburgh
Hardest hitter: **Clifton Smith**, LB, Syracuse
Biggest underachiever: **Johnnie Morant**, WR, Syracuse

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Paul Pasqualoni**, Syracuse
Best recruiter: **Frank Beamer**, Virginia Tech
Coach on the spot: **Rich Rodriguez**, West Virginia

Don't be surprised if...

. . . Virginia Tech's streak of nine straight bowl bids comes to an end. Tech is breaking in a lot of new players against a vastly upgraded schedule.

One man's opinion

"Everybody talks about how much Miami lost and how many of its players will go in the first round (of the NFL Draft). It has guys behind them who might also go in the first round if they were eligible to come out. They still have that great triggerman (Ken Dorsey), and they'll have a great defense. They'll be fine."

—a Big East assistant on Miami's "dropoff" after its national title

Rating the recruits

1. Miami
Strong year all around for the 'Canes. Needed DBs and WRs and got them. Signed six DBs and four WRs, including Sinorice Moss, brother of former Miami great Santana.

2. Boston College
Eagles did particularly well with linemen. Jim Unis on 'D' and Shadu Moore on 'O' are the best.

3. Pittsburgh
Larry Fitzgerald should be Panthers' next great receiver. Lefty QB Tyler Palko stayed home and provided a big catch.

4. Virginia Tech
Needed more linebackers but did corral QB Marcus Vick (yes, *his* brother).

5. Rutgers
Loads of linebackers, led by standout Berkeley Hutchinson.

6. Syracuse
Tim Washington is the all-time top prep rusher in Connecticut.

7. West Virginia
Got a ton of receivers, led by Texan Broderic Jone

8. Temple
Uncertain league future (out of Big East after 2004) hurts Owls. They did sign four CBs.

1 Miami

Larry Coker's lottery ticket came in the form of ex-Miami coach Butch Davis moving to Cleveland in the NFL. The Hurricanes turned things over to the longtime assistant, who proceeded to not lose a game.

He was rewarded with a raise and the expectations that come from winning a national championship. Oh, yeah, he also saw a bunch of players leave early for the NFL figuring they could do no more on the collegiate level.

Fear not. The "0" in Coker's loss ledger may disappear this season, but Miami doesn't figure to disappear from the national rankings any time soon. Miami goes into the season with 17 straight league victories and 22 consecutive wins overall.

The Hurricanes are, as one Big East assistant said, "pretty much in a reload mode."

Quarterback Ken Dorsey, third in the 2001 Heisman voting, didn't leave early. Already Miami's career leader with 58 touchdown passes, Dorsey threw for 2,652 yards and 23 touchdowns last season. He was intercepted only five times.

Wideout Andre Johnson (37 catches, 10 TDs last season) gives Dorsey a big (6-foot-3, 212 pounds) and fast target. Tight end Jeremy Shockey left for the NFL. His place will be taken by Kellen Winslow Jr., son of the NFL Hall-of-Famer with the same name.

Running is a question mark. Clinton Portis, who had 1,200 yards in 2001, is gone. Frank Gore, who rushed for 562 yards as a freshman, tore up a knee in the spring and his 2002 season is very questionable. Willis McGahee, who had 314 yards last season as a redshirt freshman, will have to carry the load.

Miami lost a trio of outstanding linemen in Martin Bibla, Joaquin Gonzalez and Outland Trophy winner Bryant McKinnie, but returns two outstanding blockers in center Brett Romberg and guard Sherko Haji-Rasouli.

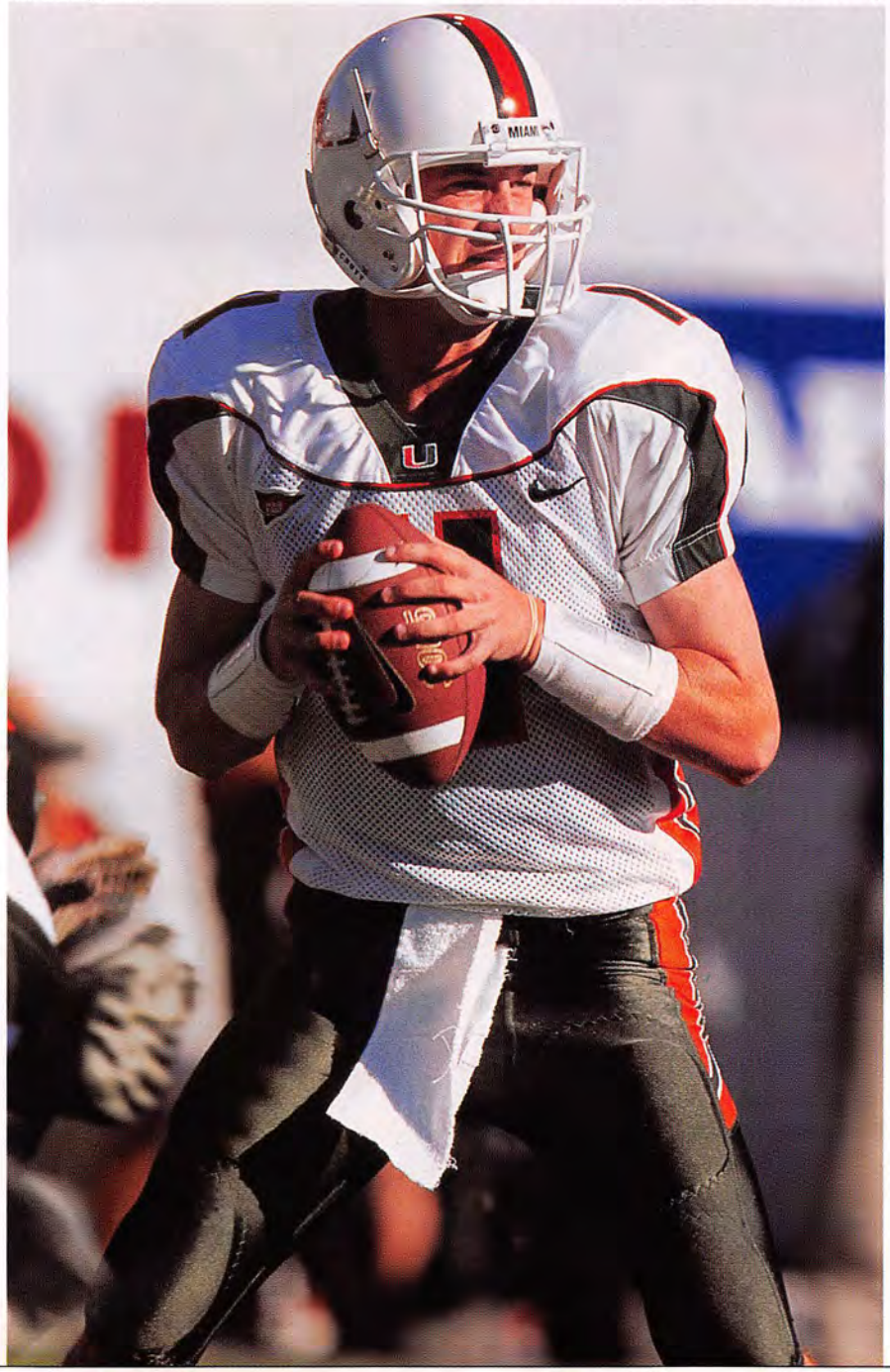
Up front, Miami is fine on defense. Starters Jerome McDougle, William Joseph, Matt Walters and Andrew Williams return on the line. So do linebackers Jonathan Vilma and D.J. Williams. The line will be among the best in the country. Vilma is the leading returning tackler with 87.

The 2001 secondary—an excellent one consisting of Phillip Buchanon, James Lewis, Edward Reed and Mike Rumph—was cleaned out. Reed had nine interceptions a year ago. The 'Canes' recruiting class includes a quartet of defensive backs from Florida who could get tested early. Brandon Meriweather of Apopka, Florida, was a SuperPrep All-America.

Miami's primary specialists, kicker Todd Sievers and punter Freddie Capshaw, are the best in the Big East.

Miami once again plays a killer non-league schedule. Forgive it the opener against Florida A&M. The Hurricanes are also playing Florida, Florida State and Tennessee.

***Ken Dorsey,** Miami*



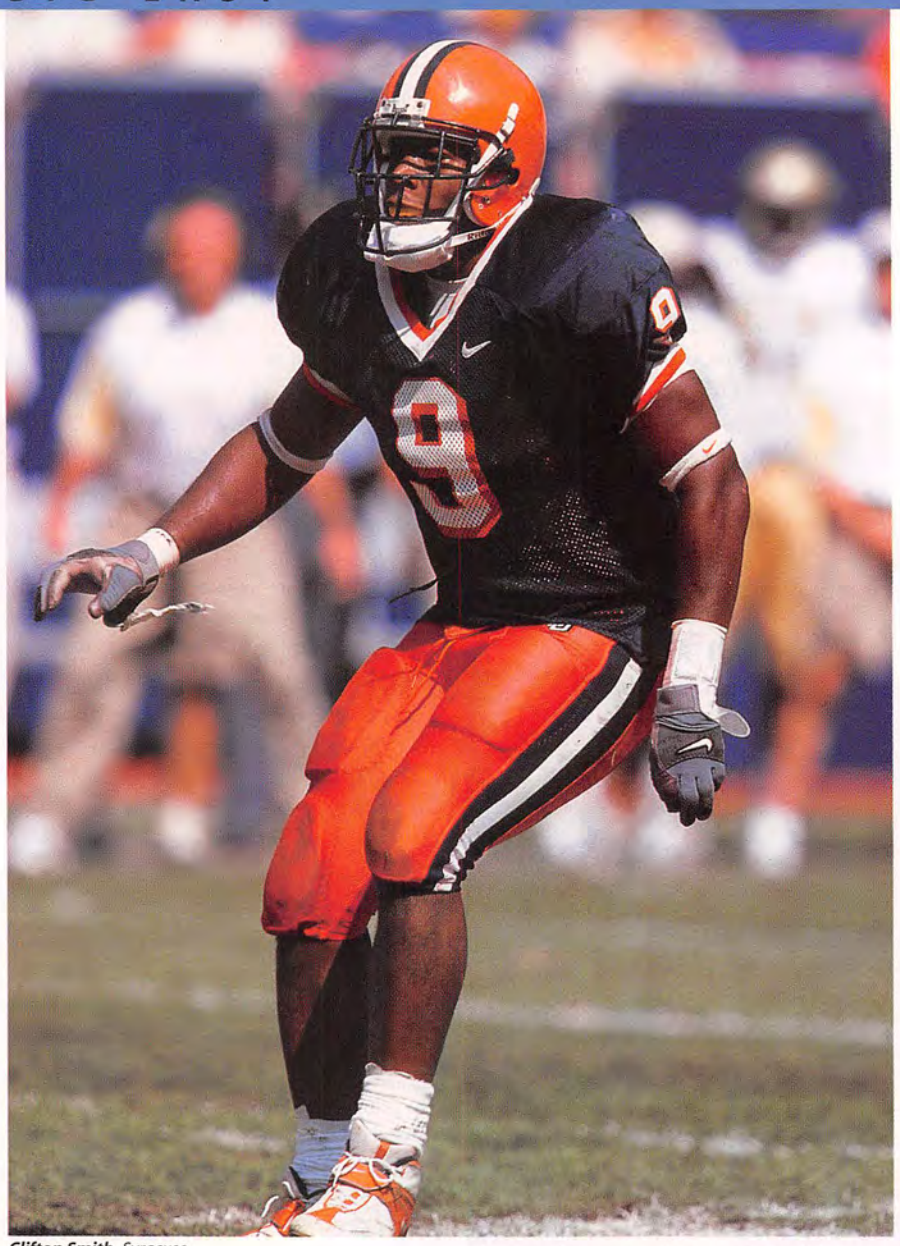
2 Syracuse

The streak was sure to end. You read that, uh, right here. Hey, we had it on good authority. Too many question marks and too difficult a schedule were going to combine to bring Syracuse down after 14 straight winning seasons.

When the Orangemen started 0-2, it seemed the right call.

All Syracuse did from there was go 10-1, including a victory over Kansas State in the Insight.com Bowl. The only loss was to national champion Miami. It ripped Auburn, beat Virginia Tech. It was a season that should have earned Paul Pasqualoni Coach-of-the-Year honors, except first-year coach Larry Coker went unbeaten at Miami.

OK. We're convinced. The streak will go to 16 straight this season, even though Syracuse's returning offensive starters could fit on a motorcycle.



Clifton Smith, *Syracuse*

One of them is junior quarterback R.J. Anderson—Pasqualoni calls him by his given name of Robin—who developed into an elusive force last season. Just ask several Virginia Tech defenders who are still trying to figure out where Anderson went on a crucial third-down play. He threw for 1,123 yards and is Syracuse's top returning rusher, albeit with only 245 yards.

The other returning starter is center Nick Romeo. Sophomores Adam Terry and Matt Tarullo figure to move in on the line along with junior Kevin Sampson and senior Erik Kaloyanides. Joe Donnelly caught eight passes last season and will probably replace Graham Manley at tight end.

Sophomore Walter Reyes at tailback and senior Chris Davis at fullback join Anderson in the backfield. Senior receiver David Tyree caught 18 passes last season. Junior Johnnie Morant, a 6-foot-5 wideout, had 18 receptions, too, and added two in the bowl victory. Jamel Riddle will also be in the mix. The 5-foot-7 junior averaged 23.1 yards for 14 catches in 2001.

Syracuse is much more experienced on defense, though the Orangemen will sorely miss All-America end Dwight Freeney (17.5 sacks). Linebacker Clifton Smith is a good place to start. He was the Insight.com Defensive MVP who recorded 11 tackles behind the line in 2001. He's twice been an All-Big East choice. His linebacking partners will be juniors Jameel Dumas and Rich Scanlon.

Junior tackle Christian Ferrara and junior end Josh Thomas return on the line. Seniors Latroy Oliver (corner) and Keeon Walker (strong safety) are back in the secondary. Ferrara, like Smith, had 11 tackles for loss last season. Oliver intercepted four passes.

3 Virginia Tech

A very bad break in 2001 will help Virginia Tech in 2002.

Tailback Lee Suggs had a monster year in 2000 with 1,207 rushing yards and 28 total touchdowns. The thinking was he'd follow it up with another big year and then head to the pros. Except he got hurt in the first game and was out for the year.

So now Tech goes into the season with Suggs and sophomore Kevin Jones, the Big East's Rookie of the Year after an 857-yard season.

Kevin Jones, *Virginia Tech*

LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE BEYER, PAUL JASIENSKI

That's a loaded backfield, one that could produce a pair of 1,000-yard rushers. Tech uses two tailbacks regularly and is tweaking its offense to find ways to get both on the field at once.

Will that strength be enough to negate numerous question marks?

Gone is wideout Andre Davis, Tech's only consistent receiver last season. The Hokies moved three players to that spot in the spring to try and find an answer. They're hopeful junior Ernest Wilford, sophomore Richard Johnson and senior Shawn Witten will raise their levels. Keith Willis and Jared Mazzetta have the enviable task of stepping in for tight ends Bob Slowikowski and Browning Wynn.

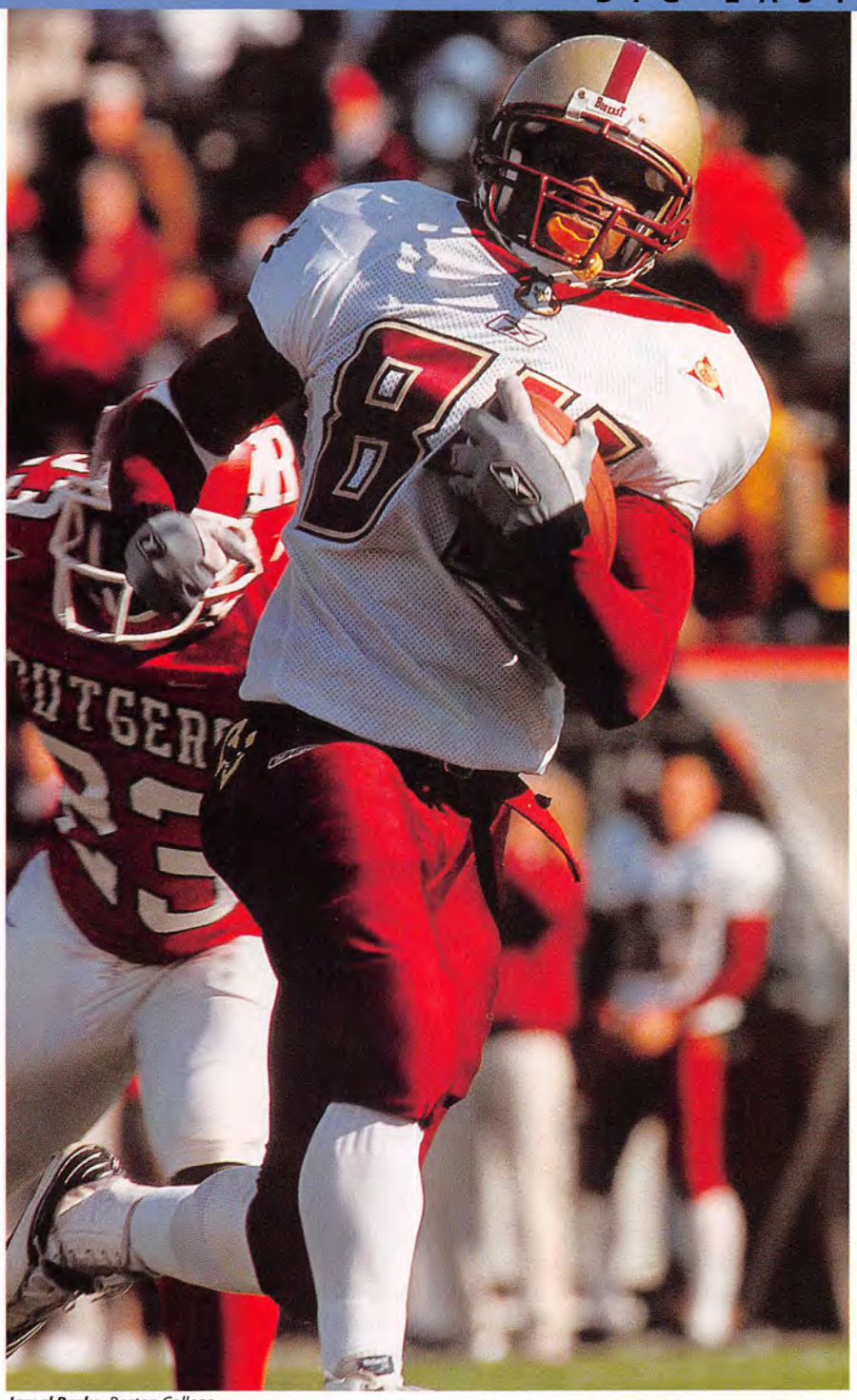
Center Jake Grove is the only starting lineman under 300 pounds (he misses by 14 pounds) and he's probably Tech's best. He played guard last season.

Senior quarterback Grant Noel threw for 1,826 yards and 16 touchdowns last season. He tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the final spring practice. He's going to try and return without surgery. If he's not able, sophomore Bryan Randall will take his place. Randall played in eight games as Noel's backup last season. Marcus Vick, brother of Michael Vick, signed with Tech and Noel's availability will help determine if he takes a redshirt season. Even at full-speed, Noel isn't very mobile, but how often do you want your quarterback carrying the ball with Suggs and Jones in the backfield?

Jarrett Ferguson, a four-year starter at fullback and Tech's second-leading receiver in 2001, is gone. Doug Easlick takes his place.

Tech has a quartet of outstanding defensive ends in senior Lamar Cobb and juniors Jim Davis, Cols Colas and Nathaniel Adibi. It has a very good secondary in free safety Willie Pile and corners Ronyell Whitaker and DeAngelo Hall. Whitaker was a third-team All-America last season. Davis had 4.5 sacks, Colas 3.5. They combined for 18 tackles for loss. Pile intercepted four passes.

It's in the middle where Tech has worries on defense. It lost its top five tacklers and top three linebackers, more than 1,300 career tackles in all. Sophomore Kevin Lewis figures to be one of the tackles, maybe to be joined by recruit/brother Jonathan Lewis. Vegas Robinson, a junior with limited experience, will be one of Tech's linebackers. Look for Mikal Baaqee to be the other inside backer. Mike Daniels took over late last season as the Hokies' outside linebacker and is expected to be a bigger factor in his sophomore season.



Jamal Burke, *Boston College*

4 Boston College

On the line, the Eagles figure to be outstanding.

Center Dan Koppen and guard Marc Parenteau are two of the best in the Big East. Tackle Leo Bell is huge at 6-8, 306 pounds, and experienced. Guards Augie Hoffman and Chris Snee have also spent time in the starting lineup.

BC will be able to block.

Now comes the question: For whom will they be blocking?

Had William Green elected to return for his senior season, BC would have been ranked higher. Green rushed for 1,559 yards in 10 games last season. But he didn't elect to return, so BC and coach Tom O'Brien are searching for a replacement.

Junior Derrick Knight gained 337 yards and had 78 against Miami when Green was suspended for a game. Horace Dodd, a transfer from Penn State, is eligible this year. J.P. Comella (nine catches) returns at fullback.

Gerald Hayes, *Pittsburgh*

Brian St. Pierre was second-team All-Big East at quarterback in 2001. A senior, he threw for 2,106 yards and 25 touchdowns. He became better as the season progressed, which you'd expect from a first-time starter, and will be counted on for a bigger year this season.

Jamal Burke (25 catches in 2001), a senior, returns at receiver. Eight of his catches went for touchdowns. Senior Keith Hemmings will be BC's other wideout.

BC has three defensive line starters returning. End Antonio Garay, also a standout wrestler, missed spring practice because of surgery to repair a neck injury that shortened his 2001 season. Also back are junior tackles Tom Martin and Doug Goodwin. Goodwin had 12 tackles for loss.

Vinny Ciurciu, the middle linebacker who led BC with 87 tackles, returns. So does linebacker Josh Ott, who missed the start of 2001 with a back injury. He had 75 tackles and made *Sports Illustrated's* all-bowl team for his play in the Music City Bowl.

The Eagles also have a trio of returnees in the secondary. Doug Bessette is a particularly talented strong safety who made 85 tackles. Free safety Ralph Parent had 75 tackles. The other returnee is cornerback Trevor White.

Punter Kevin McMyler led the Big East last season with a 43.2-yard average. He also spent some time as the team's placekicker. Sandro Sciortino, injured much of last season, is back to do the kicking.

5 Pittsburgh

The passing game at Pittsburgh has been pretty good in recent seasons and it's helped overshadow some pretty good play on the other side.

This season, with the primary parts of the passing attack in need of replacement, linebacker Gerald Hayes and his defensive cohorts may be the spotlight unit for the Panthers.

Hayes is one of seven starters back from a group that allowed only 7.4 points during Pitt's five-game winning streak to close the 2001 regular season. (Pitt also won a bowl game for the first time since 1989).

Hayes was in on 104 tackles each of the past two seasons. He has 32 tackles for loss in his career.

Junior linebacker Lewis Moore was Defensive MVP in the Tangerine Bowl. Beside Moore, Brian Beinecke will be starting for the third straight season. Brian Guzek and Tyre Young return on the defensive line, which will miss end Bryan Knight.

Safety Ramon Walker bolted early for the NFL, but Pitt returns a pair of strong cornerbacks in Shawntae Spencer and Torrie Cox (also a standout return specialist). Cox, a junior from Miami, was in on 48 tackles last season. He also became the first player to block a Miami punt since 1998. Cox has twice been Pitt's MVP on special teams. Senior Gary Urschler and sophomore Tyrone Gilliard will move into the safety slots.

On offense, Pitt's fine except for its passing attack. Quarterback David Priestley and wideouts Antonio Bryant and R.J. English are gone, with Bryant leaving a year early. English led the league in receiving yards per game.

Junior Rod Rutherford, who saw spot duty last season, rushed for 225 yards from the quarterback slot. He didn't show much passing (four interceptions), but will get first crack at the job. Sophomore Pat Hoderny will also get a look. He's a 6-foot-6, 230-pounder. Tyler Palko, a freshman lefty from Imperial, Pennsylvania, was a key recruit.

Yogi Roth, a junior walk-on, caught 11 passes last season. Roosevelt Bynes got some time as a true freshman while Bryant was nursing an ankle injury. His first play resulted in a 56-yard touchdown. Recruit Larry Fitzgerald could factor in as well.

Raymond Kirkley led Pitt with 645 rushing yards in his true freshman season. Kirkley also caught 19 passes. Marcus Furman, another true freshman, gained 243 yards on 42 attempts. Junior Lousaka Polite returns for his third season as the Panthers' fullback.

Tailback Brandon Miree sat out last season after his transfer from Alabama and has junior eligibility.

Pitt's entire offensive line returns: senior center Chad Reed, senior guard Bryan Anderson, junior guard Dan LaCarte, sophomore tackle

TOMASSO DEROSA

Rob Petitti and junior tackle Matt Morgan. Two publications named Petitti a Freshman All-America. Also back is junior tight end Kris Wilson, who caught 19 passes last season.

6 West Virginia

Rich Rodriguez's first season as head coach at his alma mater was hardly enjoyable. The Mountaineers won just once in their final eight games and the three teams they beat—Ohio, Kent State and Rutgers—won't show up real high on anyone's power rankings list.

The season ended on a particularly sour note as the Mounties lost close games at home to Temple and Pittsburgh in the final two weeks.

A bright spot? Someone, anyone?

Tailback Avon Cobourne was one, for sure. As a junior last season, Cobourne rushed for 1,298 yards and caught 23 passes. He's been over 1,000 yards in each of his three seasons.

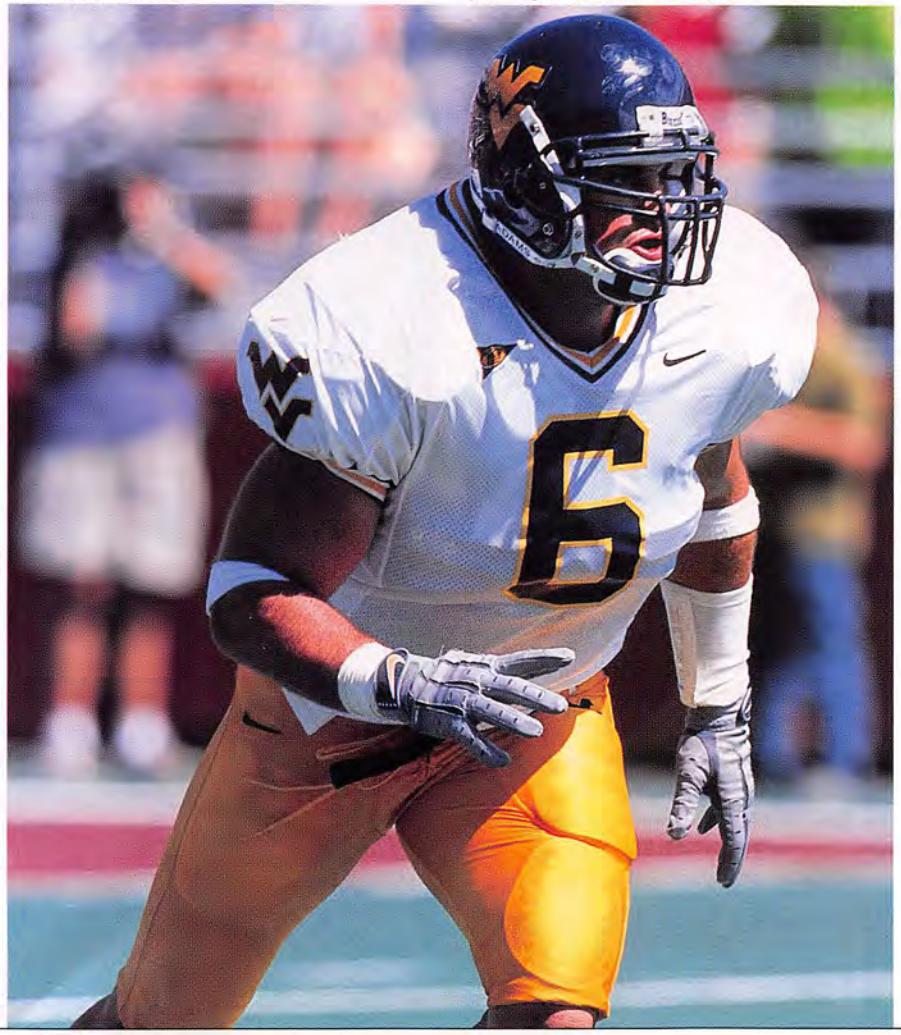
Sophomore Rasheed Marshall is the only letter-winner at quarterback. He played in five games last season, passing for 327 yards and rushing for 210. Danny Embick, who redshirted in 2001, is well-regarded and will get a look at quarterback as well.

Phil Braxton, a senior, caught 26 passes before his 2001 season was cut short because of a broken foot. He had seven catches against Maryland. A.J. Nastasi ended up as the Mountaineers' top receiver with 42 catches, though his yardage total (334, an eight-yard average) wasn't great.

West Virginia has a solid set of offensive tackles in junior Tim Brown and senior Lance Nimmo.

Senior James Davis and junior Grant Wiley give the Mountaineers a pair of good linebackers. Davis, an outside linebacker, had 14 of his 51 tackles behind the line last season. Wiley was the league's Rookie of the Year as a freshman. Even though injuries limited him to nine games, he finished with 98 tackles (more than he had as a freshman). His tackles-for-loss numbers (14 to six) and interception numbers (three to one) did fall from his excellent rookie season. Wiley had 22 tackles against Syracuse, the third-best single-game figure in school history.

Grant Wiley, *West Virginia*



BRUCE SCHWARTZMAN

Senior David Upchurch returns for his third season as the Mountaineers' nose tackle. He had four sacks among his 14 tackles behind the line last season.

Angel Estrada, a junior college transfer, did well in his first season as West Virginia's roverback. He had 69 tackles and two sacks before his season ended after nine games with a broken leg. West Virginia has work to do in the secondary after losing standouts Shawn Hackett and Rick Sherrod.

The well-traveled Phil Elmassian was WVU's defensive coordinator last season. This year, Jeff Casteel and Todd Graham will share the job.

7 Temple

They're baaaccckkk.

The Big East wanted Temple out after the 2001 season. Temple forced a resolution that will allow the Owls to stay through 2004 (Connecticut becomes a full-time member for football in 2005). So the league gets three more seasons to see if Temple can make some real progress or some more imagined progress.

Temple went 4-7 in 2001, its second straight season with that record. The Owls don't flat-out stink like they used to, and the lesser teams on their schedule don't give them much of a challenge. But they're still not close to catching up to the league's powers (losses last season of 38-0 to Miami, 35-0 to Virginia Tech, 33-7 to Pittsburgh and 33-10 to Boston College) and that doesn't figure to change.

The Owls do have one serious standout in senior defensive tackle Dan Klecko, son of former NFL star Joe Klecko. The 6-foot-1, 275-pounder was a unanimous All-Big East choice last season when he had 62 tackles and 19.5 tackles for loss.

Other defensive returnees include outside linebacker Jairo Almonte, cornerback Terrance Leftwich, safety Lafton Thompson and the wonderfully named defensive tackle Robert Sack.

Almonte, in his first year at Temple after a junior college career, had 57 tackles and returned his lone interception 70 yards for a touchdown. Leftwich had a trio of interceptions. A former wideout, he'll be a three-year starter. Thompson, a senior, earned a final year of eligibility after missing the 1998 season. He intercepted two passes in 2001. Sack didn't have any last season and has only one for his career. He does have 14 tackles behind the line.

The offense has more experience, which may or may not be a good thing. Temple's offense was very inconsistent in 2001.

Sophomore Mike McGann made seven starts at quarterback and threw for 934 yards.

Tanardo Sharps, *Temple*

He had nine interceptions and only three touchdowns. He's tall (6-6) and figures to get better with experience.

Tailback Tanardo Sharps gained 1,038 yards as a sophomore in 2000, but fell to 771 last season.

Senior receiver Zamir Cobb caught 19 passes in five games before undergoing a hernia operation. He also had a punt return for a touchdown. Senior receiver Sean Dillard was second-team All-Big East after a 51-catch season.

Makonnen Fenton is a junior back who rushed for 216 yards and led the league with a 26.1-yard average for kickoff returns.

Veteran linemen are senior center Donny Klein, junior guard Joe Laudano and senior tackle Dave Yovanovits. Klein spent some time at every line position last season. Yovanovits is a three-year starter who has gone the distance in 30 of his 33 career games.

8 Rutgers

The step, Rutgers hopes, will be much more noticeable this year. If there was a step forward last season, it was barely noticeable.

New Jersey native Greg Schiano saw his team go 2-9 in his first season as the Scarlet Knights' head coach. It was a frustrating campaign for a man who had come over from perennial power Miami with designs on elevating Rutgers' standing.

More progress should be shown this year because Rutgers has had a full year to absorb Schiano's system and it will go into the season with 18 returning starters. But it may take another year or two before Rutgers is able to make a serious move upward. The top teams in the league don't appear to be getting worse, so the Scarlet Knights have to get a lot better.

Tight end L.J. Smith is the best of the Knights. He gained a final year of eligibility and decided to use it rather than go pro. Smith had 30 receptions for 282 yards and three touchdowns last season.

Ryan Cubit, son of offensive coordinator Bill Cubit, was thrown in at quarterback and took some hard lessons. He threw for a school freshman record of 1,433 yards and nine touchdowns (he was intercepted 19 times). Perhaps the most impressive thing about him was he started all 11 games. He took some serious beatings. Rutgers quarterbacks were sacked 51 times in 2001.

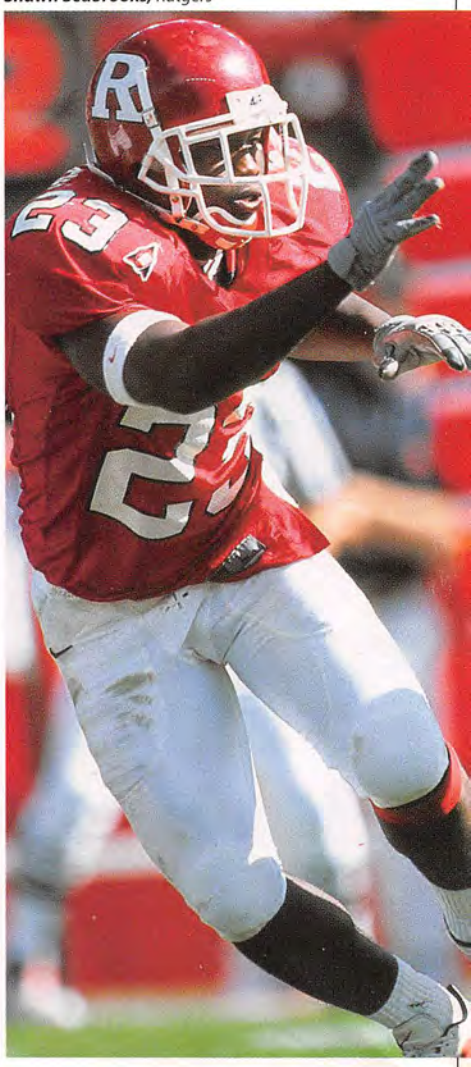
Sophomore Marcus Jones returns to the backfield after gaining 327 yards last season. Ray Pilch will again be the fullback. Wideout Aaron Martin, a 6-foot-4 senior, averaged 20.9 yards for 25 catches a year ago.

On the line, Rutgers has six seniors who shared starting duties last season. Tackle Brian Duffy is a 6-foot-5, 300-pounder.

Rutgers gave up 421 yards per game last season, almost 200 more than it gained. With 10 starters back on defense, those numbers figure to improve. Safety Shawn Seabrooks led Rutgers in 2001 with 99 tackles. Linebacker Gary Brackett contributed 92, including 14 behind the line. Safety Nate Colon had 91 stops.

They'll spearhead a defensive unit that also features senior linemen Greg Pyszczymuka and Raheem Orr, who had five tackles for loss in seven games in a season cut short by injury. ■

Shawn Seabrooks, *Rutgers*



LEFT TO RIGHT: BRUCE SCHWARTZMAN, TOMASSO DEROSA

League's newfound style is more than a passing fancy—and MSU should take full advantage.

BY JACK EBLING
LANSING (MI) STATE JOURNAL

It must be a new century. After decades of preaching and proving that rushing is the best way to move the football, the Big Ten has joined the rest of the nation and crowned pass-happy champions the past two seasons.

Record-smashing passer Drew Brees led Purdue to the 2001 Rose Bowl. And quarterback Kurt Kittner helped Illinois to the 2002 Sugar Bowl, an appropriate consolation prize when a trip to Pasadena meant a shot at the BCS national title.

If the same pattern holds true this fall—if air travel is the way to go—all signs point to a surprise winner. With league passing leader Jeff Smoker and scary receiver Charles Rogers, a possible No. 1 overall pick in the next NFL Draft, Michigan State could be ready to claim its first crown since a four-way tie in 1990.

Wisconsin will have Brooks Bollinger, an excellent runner, and Jim Sorgi, the league's best backup, throwing to wideout Lee Evans and handing the ball to Anthony Davis, the conference leaders in receiving and rushing yards, respectively.

If the Badgers can't earn at least a share of the title, Michigan, Ohio State or Penn State might. That tradition-rich threesome can match any group in the country for historical achievements. But the Wolverines and Buckeyes lost two of their last three games last season, including bowl opportunities. The Nittany Lions dropped their final regular-season game and weren't bowl-eligible.

Iowa, Illinois and Purdue should have their moments, just not enough of them. Indiana, Northwestern and Minnesota won't be favored too often.

Predictions

1. Michigan State
2. Wisconsin
3. Michigan
4. Ohio State
5. Penn State
6. Iowa
7. Illinois
8. Purdue
9. Indiana
10. Northwestern
11. Minnesota

Games to watch

Wisconsin at Michigan State, October 26
The Badgers were trampled by the Spartans last year in Madison.

Michigan State at Michigan, November 2
Revenge for the Wolverines could give them at least a share of the title.

Michigan at Ohio State, November 23
The Wolverines will try to prevent losing two in a row to the Buckeyes.

All-Big Ten Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
WR—**Charles Rogers**, junior, Michigan State	DL—**Shaun Phillips**, junior, Purdue
WR—**Lee Evans**, senior, Wisconsin	DL—**Jimmy Kennedy**, senior, Penn State
TE—**Dallas Clark**, junior, Iowa	DL—**Shantee Orr**, junior, Michigan
OL—**Tony Pashos**, senior, Illinois	LB—**Landon Johnson**, junior, Purdue
OL—**Chris McKelvy**, junior, Penn State	LB—**Jerry Schumacher**, senior, Illinois
OL—**Adrien Clarke**, junior, Ohio State	LB—**Phil Archer**, junior, Minnesota
OL—**Jeff Roehl**, senior, Northwestern	LB—**Victor Hobson**, senior, Michigan
OL—**Al Johnson**, senior, Wisconsin	DB—**Mike Doss**, senior, Ohio State
QB—**Jeff Smoker**, junior, Michigan State	DB—**Eugene Wilson**, senior, Illinois
RB—**Anthony Davis**, sophomore, Wisconsin	DB—**Bob Sanders**, junior, Iowa
RB—**Jeremi Johnson**, senior, Indiana	DB—**Stuart Schweigert**, junior, Purdue
PK—**Nate Kaeding**, junior, Iowa	P—**Andy Groom**, senior, Ohio State
RS—**Larry Johnson**, senior, Penn State	

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Charles Rogers**, Michigan State
Best hands: **Brandon Lloyd**, WR, Illinois
Best passing QB: **Jeff Smoker**, Michigan State
Best option QB: **Brooks Bollinger**, Wisconsin
Most elusive RB: **Anthony Davis**, Wisconsin
Best instincts: **Mike Doss**, S, Ohio State
Best athlete: **Charles Rogers**, WR, Michigan State
Best under pressure: **Jeff Smoker**, QB, Michigan State
Top NFL prospect: **Charles Rogers**, WR, Michigan State
Top impact freshman: **Maurice Clarett**, RB, Ohio State
Hardest hitter: **Mike Doss**, S, Ohio State
Biggest underachiever: **John Navarre**, QB, Michigan

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Joe Tiller**, Purdue
Best recruiter: **Jim Tressel**, Ohio State
Coach on the spot: **Gerry DiNardo**, Indiana

Don't be surprised if...

. . . Michigan State and Michigan are undefeated when they meet on November 2 in Ann Arbor.

One man's opinion

"The Wolverines won't scare you on offense. But they didn't in 1997, either, when their defense made them No. 1."

—a Big Ten assistant

Rating the recruits

1. Ohio State
Even before a win in Ann Arbor, Tressel's team had locked up the state, including RB Maurice Clarett.

2. Michigan
The Wolverines signed their usual solid class but didn't get all they wanted, despite landing California quarterback Matt Gutierrez.

3. Penn State
Midwest power runners J.R. Zwierzynski and Tim Shaw bolstered the usual East Coast contingent.

4. Michigan State
St. Louis running back David Richard, quarterback Drew Stanton and three top receivers mean thrills.

5. Illinois
Linebacker Cyrus Garrett highlights a decent incoming class for the Big Ten's lone BCS representative.

6. Wisconsin
Speed and skill were the primary goals, as the Badgers signed only two players heavier than 240 pounds.

7. Iowa
Size starts with players like 6-7 offensive tackle Chris Felder and continues with a pair of 6-6 quarterbacks.

8. Purdue
The Boilermakers signed five players from Florida, four from Texas and just three from Indiana.

9. Minnesota
The Golden Gophers signed eight in-state prospects and seven from Ohio, Glen Mason's home state.

10. Northwestern
The Wildcats' class could be much better than anyone thinks if they fit into Randy Walker's system.

11. Indiana
Gerry DiNardo signed players from 12 states and Australia, but inked just one player in Indiana.

Greg Taplin, *Michigan State*

1 Michigan State

Michigan State was just 7-5 last year. But the Spartans beat Notre Dame for the fifth straight time, stunned Michigan in the final second and outscored Fresno State in the Silicon Valley Football Classic, one of the best of all the bowl games.

This time, the pressure is on third-year coach Bobby Williams to produce at least nine wins. And with one of the Big Ten's easier schedules—eight home games, including the first five, and no date with Illinois or Ohio State—10 or 11 victories are possible.

If Jeff Smoker continues at his current pace, he will become the top quarterback in school history by the end of his junior season. After leading MSU to dramatic wins over Notre Dame as a freshman and Michigan as a sophomore, he knows how to win and believes he will.

Split end Charles Rogers could be the best player in college football. He had 67 catches for 1,470 yards, a 21.9 yards-per-catch average and 14 touchdowns as a sophomore. If he surpasses those totals and the Spartans win big, Rogers could make a run at the Heisman Trophy.

He should have help from flankers B.J. Lovett and Ziehl Kavanaght and tight end Eric Knott, who will replace NFL draftees Herb Haygood and Chris Baker. The big question is whether converted fullback Dawan Moss can replace the 18th overall NFL pick, T.J. Duckett, at tailback. If not, heralded freshman David Richard could be forced to carry the load.

The entire offensive line returns, led by junior center Brian Ottney, a third-year starter. Guards William Whitticker, Joe Tate and Paul Harker and tackles Steve Stewart, Ulish Booker and Sean Poole should give Smoker time to throw and Moss or Richard room to run.

The defense will have to replace the school's fourth-best career tackler, Josh Thornhill, at middle linebacker. But redshirt freshman Seth Mitchell seems to have the ability to do that. If he can, the Spartans should be fine with Mike Labinjo at strongside linebacker and either Ronald Stanley or Monquiz Wedlow at the weakside spot.

Kyle Rasmussen is back at tackle and Greg Taplin returns at end to anchor the defensive front. They should have help from Kevin Vickerson, Mathias Askew and perhaps Clifford Dukes, with Labinjo moving to end in passing situations.

The secondary should be a strength after a traumatic 2001 season. Cornerback Cedric Henry, one of the Big Ten's best, is back after a year of academic ineligibility. And after season-ending leg injuries, DeMario Suggs and Jason Harmon should be ready. Suggs and Broderick Nelson are solid at corner, while Harmon can help standout Thomas Wright and Robert Flagg at safety in a unit that has suddenly become very deep.

The question could be special teams again. Placekicker Dave Rayner has a strong leg, but needs more consistency as a sophomore. And the punting could be a disaster if freshman Brandon Fields can't deliver. But the Spartans survived four blocked punts in a season-opening win last year. They might be able to overcome a special-teams problem and still win a conference title.

2 Wisconsin

The Badgers fell to 5-7 last year, allowing some observers to tease that Wisconsin had become a basketball school for the first time. After three Rose Bowl triumphs in the previous eight seasons, Barry Alvarez's program was in as strange a position at bowl time as Joe Paterno's.

Expect the Badgers to return to their late-'90s form in 2002. With 13 games before an anticipated bowl bid, this year's team could set a Wisconsin record for wins. Unless they can win at Michigan State or Michigan, an 11-2 mark might not send Barry's boys to Pasadena again.

In senior wideout Lee Evans, the Badgers have one of the league's top three players and the Big Ten season record-holder for receiving yards with 1,545. The Biletnikoff Award finalist as the nation's top pass catcher last year said no to the NFL, then injured a knee in a needless appearance in Wisconsin's spring game.

Evans needs just 1,055 yards to break the Big Ten career receiving record of 3,309 by

DAVID DUPOUIK/SPORTPICS

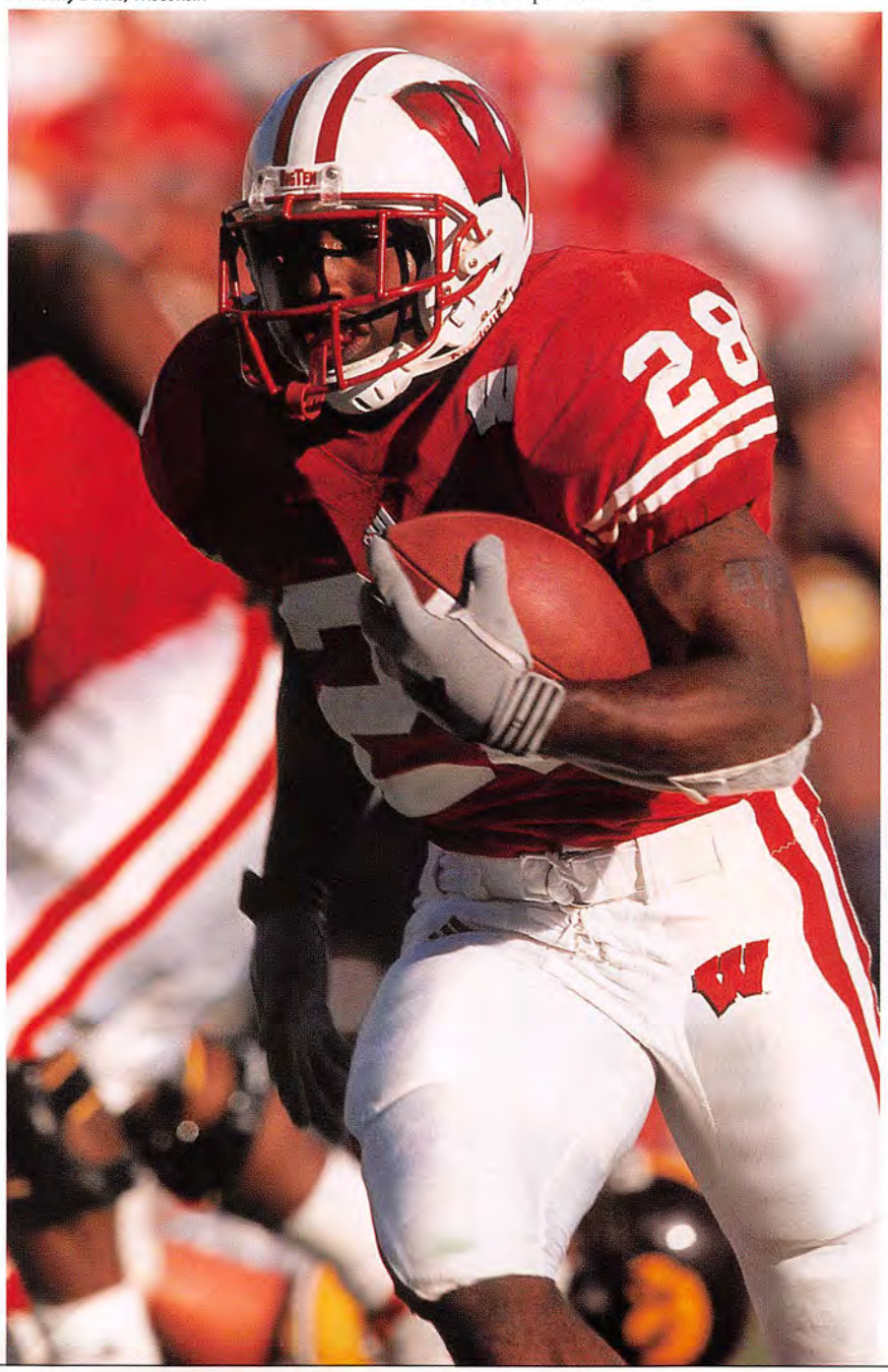
Northwestern's D'Wayne Bates. With a full recovery, he could reach that total by Halloween. And when the Badgers and Spartans collide on October 26, Evans and MSU's Rogers will be the two best receivers ever to play in a Big Ten game.

The conference's best runner should be sophomore Anthony Davis. First in the Big Ten and No. 5 in the nation in rushing last season with 133.3 yards per game, Davis posted the sixth-best freshman total in NCAA history. It would take an injury or a complete collapse for Davis not to give Wisconsin a 1,000-yard back for the 10th year in a row.

Passing to Evans and handing to Davis will be quarterbacks Brooks Bollinger and Jim Sorgi. Bollinger, 22-7 as a starter, missed three games and parts of two others last year. Healthy again, the Badgers' top career rusher among quarterbacks should become just the third 5,000-yard passer in school history. Sorgi is a terrific backup.

Center Al Johnson is one of the nation's top centers. His cousin, left tackle Ben Johnson, is just as good in some eyes. Left guard Dan Buenning started all 12 games as a freshman. Right guards Jonathan Clinkscale and Kalvin Barrett each started six games as redshirt freshmen. And right tackle Jason Jowers played all but nine snaps last season.

Anthony Davis, *Wisconsin*



Split end Darrin Charles should be a good second option for the passers at 6-foot-6. But don't be surprised if the Badgers miss wide receiver/kick returner Nick Davis and all-league tight end Mark Anelli.

No one will be missed more than tackle Wendell Bryant, one of three defensive linemen who have left. Left end Jake Sprague played in the 2000 Rose Bowl, however. And left tackle Anttaj Hawthorne is a future star. The other spots could go to ends Darius Jones, Jeff Lang or Andres Lezama and tackles Jason Jefferson, Nick Cochart or Lyle Maiava.

Jeff Mack will move back to inside linebacker after starting eight games on the outside last year. He will be joined by redshirt freshman John Gillen inside and sophomore Kareem Timbers outside, showing Wisconsin's youth on defense.

All-Big Ten cornerback Mike Echols is gone. That means Scott Starks, who started 10 games as a freshman, will team with B.J. Tucker at the corners. Michael Broussard is back at strong safety. And Robert Brooks is slated to start at free safety.

R.J. Morse returns as the punter. But juco All-America Scott Campbell could overtake Mike Allen and Adam Espinoza as the Badgers' placekicker. The key is for one of them to be much busier than Morse.

3 Michigan

An 8-4 season would have been fine for most teams. For the winningest program in NCAA history, it wasn't nearly enough. Mighty Michigan was a disappointment in last season's final two months. And the Wolverines' proud tradition, if nothing else, deserved better.

After a 6-1 start, Michigan collapsed in every way. Lloyd Carr's program was outrushed in four of its last five league games. It self-destructed with stupid plays at MSU, managed just 163 yards of offense in a gift win at Wisconsin and was outscored 23-0 in the first half by visiting Ohio State with a Big Ten title there for a taking.

But even after all of the Wolverines' weaknesses were exposed in a 45-17 trouncing by Tennessee in the Citrus Bowl, hope springs eternal in Ann Arbor. After all, this is Michigan. Talent should always be abundant.

The questions this year are primarily on offense, starting at quarterback, where incumbent John Navarre will have to hold off the challenge of San Diego State transfer Spencer Brinton. A lighter Navarre should be better after looking more like a defensive end last year and

occasionally throwing like one. And Brinton, who learned the system last year, should be fine with the tweaks of new offensive coordinator Terry Malone.

The receiving corps won't be the same without Velcro-fingered Marquise Walker, who led the conference with 86 catches. Ronald Bellamy, the new No. 1 target, has just 21 catches in three seasons but could triple that career total this year. Calvin Bell, a threat on reverses, and Tyrece Butler are the other options.

The running game took a hit in April when blazer Kelly Baraka, the leading candidate to be the No. 1 tailback, was dismissed from the team for repeated violations of team rules. That leaves Chris Perry, who averaged 3.8 yards per carry last season, and David Underwood to share the ball-carrying load. Last year's top rusher, B.J. Askew, returns to fullback.

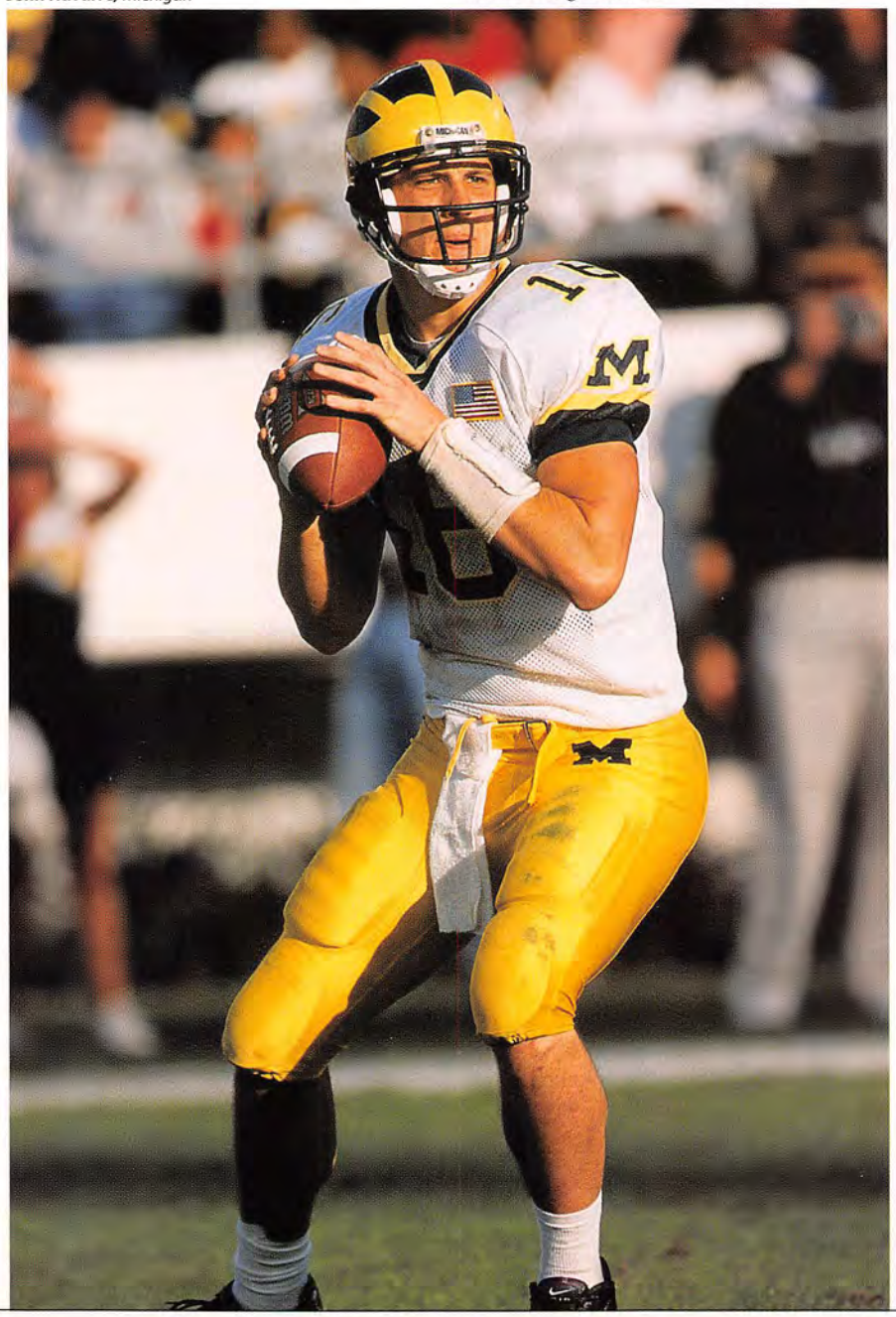
Left tackle Tony Pape, right tackle Demeterius Solomon and right guard Dave Petruziello are the returning starters on the offensive line. Andy Christopfel, Courtney Morgan and Dave Pearson are possibilities at center. And massive Joe Denay could be the man at the other guard position.

Michigan's defense should be excellent, led by outside linebacker Victor Hobson and end Shantee Orr. Hobson could be a candidate for national awards if the Wolverines win enough games. And Orr just needs to play half as well as he did against the Spartans to become one of the best in college football.

Also back on the deep, potentially dominant defensive front are tackles Norman Heuer and Shawn Lazarus and ends Dan Rumishek, Larry Stevens and Alain Kashama. Carl Diggs should be the top inside linebacker with Larry Foote gone. And the other linebackers could be Zach Kaufman or Emmanuel Casseus inside and Roy Manning or John Spytek outside.

Cornerback Marlin Jackson has All-America potential and three years to reach it. Free safety Cato June and strong safeties Julius Curry and Charles Drake have plenty of experience. But that wasn't enough to slow the Tennessee passing game on January 1. Like most other units, the secondary will have to improve for Michigan to return to its accustomed level.

John Navarre, *Michigan*



4 Ohio State

A 7-5 mark in the first season under Jim Tressel was just a tease of what lies ahead for a program that should never lose five times. Tressel proved that by going into Michigan Stadium and embarrassing the Wolverines last November, just as OSU's followers dreamed he would.

The Buckeyes landed the league's top incoming class, from all accounts. And they might need some immediate help after the departure of 10 starters, including the entire offensive backfield, college football's top center in LeCharles Bentley and 49-game starter Tyson Walter at tackle.

OSU still has starting wide receivers Chris Vance and Michael Jenkins and three key players up front in guards Adrien Clarke and Bryce Bishop and tackle Shane Olivea. But that leaves six vacancies to fill on offense, a big challenge for any team.

Craig Krenzel, the starter against Michigan and South Carolina in the Outback Bowl, should replace Steve Bellisari at quarterback. Scott McMullen is also back as the Buckeyes try to improve a balanced attack that averaged 179.8 yards rushing per game and 190.8 through the air.

Tailback Jonathan Wells, last year's team MVP, will be missed after rushing for 1,294 yards and 16 TDs. But backups Lydell Ross and Maurice Hall, 2001 redshirt JaJa Riley and heralded freshman Maurice Clarett should be good enough for the Buckeyes to win a lot of games with defense.

Alex Stepanovich seems to be the logical replacement at center. A healthy Ivan Douglas, who missed much of last year with a blood clot, will get a shot at the other tackle, backed by Adam Olds and Ryan Cook.

Mike Doss, *Ohio State*

Ben Hartsock is the new No. 1 tight end, after sharing that job last season. And with three-year mainstay Jamar Martin gone, the fullback position will now be filled by either Brandon Joe or Branden Schnittker.

But the strength of this team is on defense. Strong safety Mike Doss, a devastating hitter, is one of the league's top two defenders. He has an excellent chance to become the school's first three-time All-America since 1976.

Donnie Nickey is back for his fourth year as a starter at free safety. Underrated Matt Wilhelm returns at middle linebacker. Will Smith should line up at right end again. Darrion Scott, the left end last season, might be better at left tackle. Tim Anderson could be a star at right tackle. And Cie Grant, a starting corner last year, figures to be the top weakside linebacker.

That leaves four spots on defense to fill. Kenny Peterson and Simon Fraser will see action at left end. Robert Reynolds is the likely choice at strongside linebacker. And the corners should be Dustin Fox and Richard McNutt.

Punter Andy Groom is the league's best booter, as evidenced by his No. 4 national ranking and a 45-yard average in 2001. But placekicker Mike Nugent will have to do better than seven-for-14 on field goals.

With eight home games, including the rematch with Michigan, and no date with MSU, the Buckeyes could be in excellent position. They haven't beaten the Wolverines in consecutive years since 1981-82. And a win on November 23 could make Tressel even more of a savior.

5 Penn State

After an 0-4 start in 2001, Penn State finished at 5-6. That meant back-to-back losing seasons for the first time in Joe Paterno's amazing 36-year tenure. Paterno still broke Bear Bryant's record of 323 Division I wins, and upped that total to 327. This year's team should push that number near 335, if not higher.

The Nittany Lions won five of their last seven games and were a different team with Zack Mills at quarterback. When Penn State failed to qualify for a bowl game, its players responded in a positive way and had one of the best offseason conditioning efforts in school history.

The offense should be stronger than last year's, with seven starters returning. But the key again is Mills, who set a school record for total offense with 418 yards in a comeback win over OSU, one of three dramatic rallies for PSU last season.

Tony Johnson, *Penn State*

LEFT TO RIGHT: JOE ROBBINS, CHUCK RYDLEWSKI

If Mills makes fewer glaring mistakes and doesn't throw 12 interceptions like last season, his big-play ability could lift Penn State to the Rose Bowl for the second time in 10 years of Big Ten competition. His athleticism and leadership are magnified in a game's final minutes.

It has to help that four starters return this season on the offensive line. Center Joe Iorio, a former walk-on, started every game last year and should be a serious candidate for Academic All-America honors. Converted defensive end Tyler Lenda is back as the right guard. And with Gus Felder anchoring the left side and Chris McKelvy maturing on the right side, no Big Ten program should have a better set of tackles.

Wide receivers Tony Johnson and Bryant Johnson (no relation) combined for 78 catches last year. Tony had five 100-yard games, including a 149-yard gem against eventual national champ Miami. If the Johnson & Johnson attack continues, opposing secondaries may need treatment.

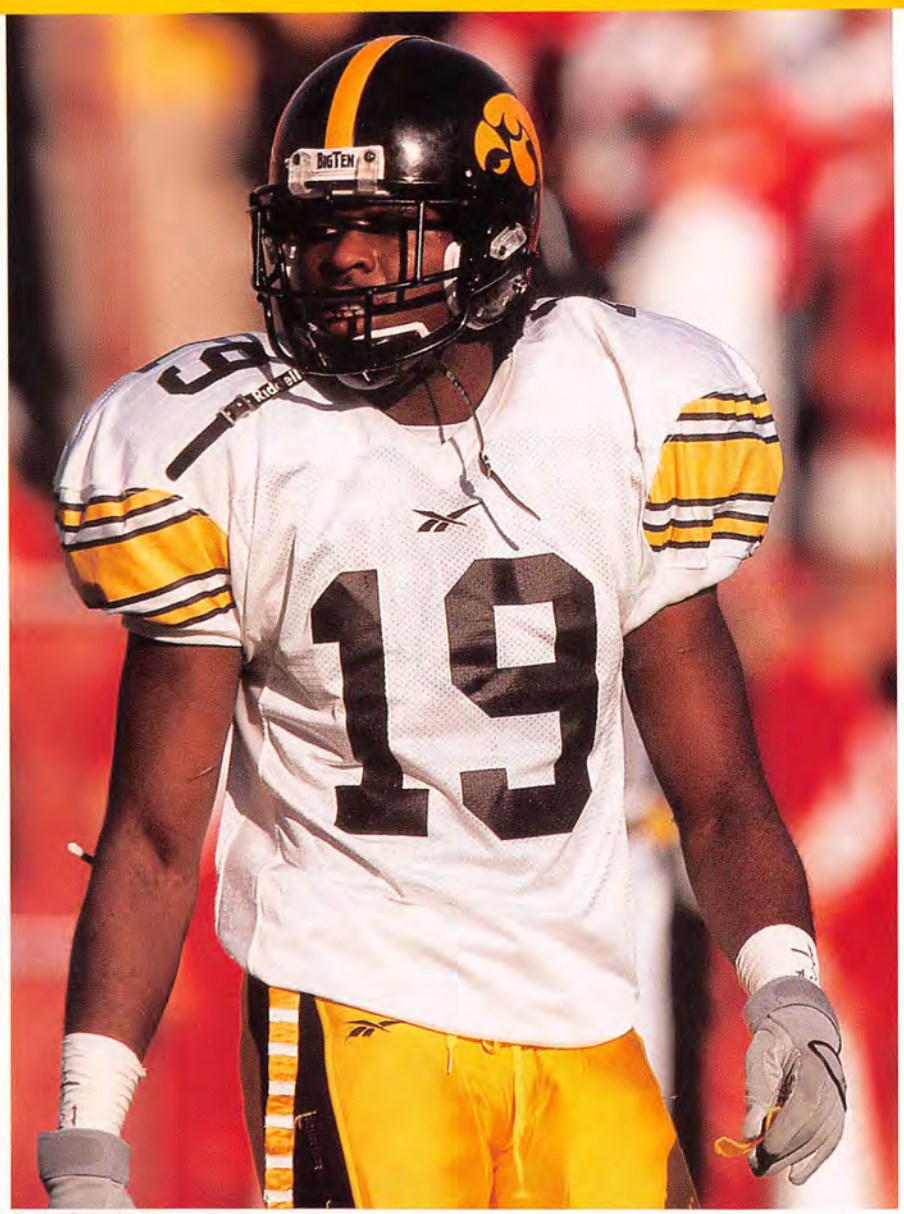
Nick Marmo or Scott Davis figures to be the starter at left guard. R.J. Luke could be the answer at tight end, replacing standout John Gilmore. And the running backs should be more settled this season. After a ball-carrier-by-committee approach yielded so-so results in '01, Larry Johnson, Tony's brother, appears ready for an expanded role. And Sean McHugh or Paul Jefferson should be ready to step in at fullback.

The defense will be led by massive right tackle Jimmy Kennedy, a 330-pounder who was almost impossible to block at times en route to All-Big Ten honors. Kennedy was projected as a late first-round or early second-round NFL draft pick. But he opted to stay in Happy Valley as a fourth-year starter.

Left tackle Anthony Adams is an excellent complement to Kennedy. Right end Michael Haynes led the Lions with 11 tackles for loss. And Paterno likes the potential of Sam Ruhe, John Bronson and Jeremiah Davis at left end.

The linebacking is much less settled, with 208-pound Deryck Toles the lone returning starter. Toles, an established playmaker, remains limited to 30 plays per game by an enzyme deficiency. Also vying for time on the outside are Derek Wake, LaMar Stewart and Jimi Mitchell. The middle linebacker should be Gino Capone or Shamar Finney.

Penn State returns three starters in the secondary: left cornerback Bryan Scott, hero back Yaacov Yisrael and free safety Shawn Mayer, the team's leading tackler last season. Richard Gardner appears to have an edge for the other job at right cornerback.



Benny Sapp, *Iowa*

Punter David Royer and placekickers Robbie Gould and David Kimball return. But the big news on special teams last year was the play of Larry Johnson on kickoff returns. He led the Big Ten and was 17th in the nation, far ahead of his team's ranking.

6 Iowa

Kirk Ferentz is 11-24 in three seasons as the head coach in Iowa City. So why do people think he can make the Hawkeyes a consistent winner again? Perhaps because he led his team to a 7-5 record last year, including an Alamo Bowl win over Texas Tech.

Don't be surprised if Iowa takes another step forward this season. Fresh from a fourth-place tie in the league—the Hawkeyes' highest finish since 1996—Ferentz is putting the pieces in place. For the first time since 1959, Iowa didn't lose a game by more than nine points.

This year's team can count on three players who could be All-Big Ten selections: tight end Dallas Clark, strong safety Bob Sanders and placekicker Nate Kaeding. Left guard Eric Steinbach and right tackle David Porter, who was granted an extra year of eligibility as a medical hardship case, are other standouts who could play for championship teams.

Starting QB Kyle McCann is gone, but last year's backup, Brad Banks, and juco transfer Nathan Chandler both believe they can do the job as the Hawkeyes' No. 1 quarterback.

Ladell Betts, who led Iowa in rushing for four straight years, is sure to be missed. How much depends on the consistency of running back Aaron Greving, who rushed for 115 yards and a touchdown in the Alamo Bowl.

Clark, a converted linebacker, had 38 catches for 539 yards last year and should be as good a

STEVE BEYER

tight end as the Big Ten can offer. C.J. Jones is the only wide receiver with much experience. He had 34 grabs as a junior. Maurice Brown, Ramon Ochoa and Warren Holloway are the leading contenders on the other side.

The top 10 players on a deep, talented offensive line have earned a total of 22 letters. Porter and right tackle Robert Gallery should be fine. Steinbach and Andy Lightfoot are quality guards. And Bruce Nelson has started 35 straight games at center.

The defense will have to survive some significant rebuilding, especially with the loss of All-Big Ten end Aaron Kampmann. The new line should feature tackles Jared Clauss and Colin Cole and ends Howard Hodges and Jonathan Babineaux. Grant Steen, Fred Barr and Kevin Worthy are the likely starters at linebackers.

Strong safety Sanders led the Hawkeyes with 122 tackles last season, including 25 against Indiana, and made an interception in the end zone on the final play of the Alamo Bowl. Free safety Derek Pagel and cornerbacks Benny Sapp and D.J. Johnson should be solid.

Kaeding can be an outstanding placekicker, as he was when he made four field goals in a game twice last year. And punter David Bradley is experienced, if not always excellent. He shouldn't have to be great for Ferentz's team to take another stride forward.

7 Illinois

The Illini stunned the college football world last season by winning the Big Ten and posting double-digit wins for the first time in 11 seasons. A record-setting offense and revamped defense brought a trip to the Sugar Bowl and a 10-2 record. Ron Turner, the reigning Big Ten Coach of the Year, and 14 returning starters—seven on offense and seven on defense—are determined to prove that wasn't a fluke. With Michigan and OSU coming to Champaign—and MSU nowhere on the schedule—Illinois just might do that.

Quarterback Kurt Kittner, a four-year starter who directed the highest-scoring offense in school history, is gone but not forgotten. He will be replaced by backup Dustin Ward, Iowa transfer Jon Beutjer or untested Mark Kornfeld. It is the first time since 1999 that there has been serious competition at the position.

Any passer would have to like his chances with wide receivers like Brandon Lloyd and Walter Young as the primary targets. In any other conference last season, Lloyd might have been the No. 1 receiver instead of the third-ranked target. He had 65 catches for 1,062 yards and 10 TDs. Young added 50 grabs for 890 yards and eight scores.

Antoineo Harris will be the primary running back. He split that job with Rocky Harvey the past three seasons. But with less than half the snaps and a broken hand, Harvey still led the Illini with 629 yards on the ground.

The Illinois offensive line allowed just 16 sacks in 12 games last season, one of the best marks in the country. Right tackle Tony Pashos was a first-team all-conference pick in 2001 and can become the school's all-time leader in consecutive starts with 11 more. Left tackle Sean Bubin and right guard Patrick Babcock are returning starters. Duke Preston and James Brown are the candidates at center, while Dave Diehl or Bryan Koch should play left guard.

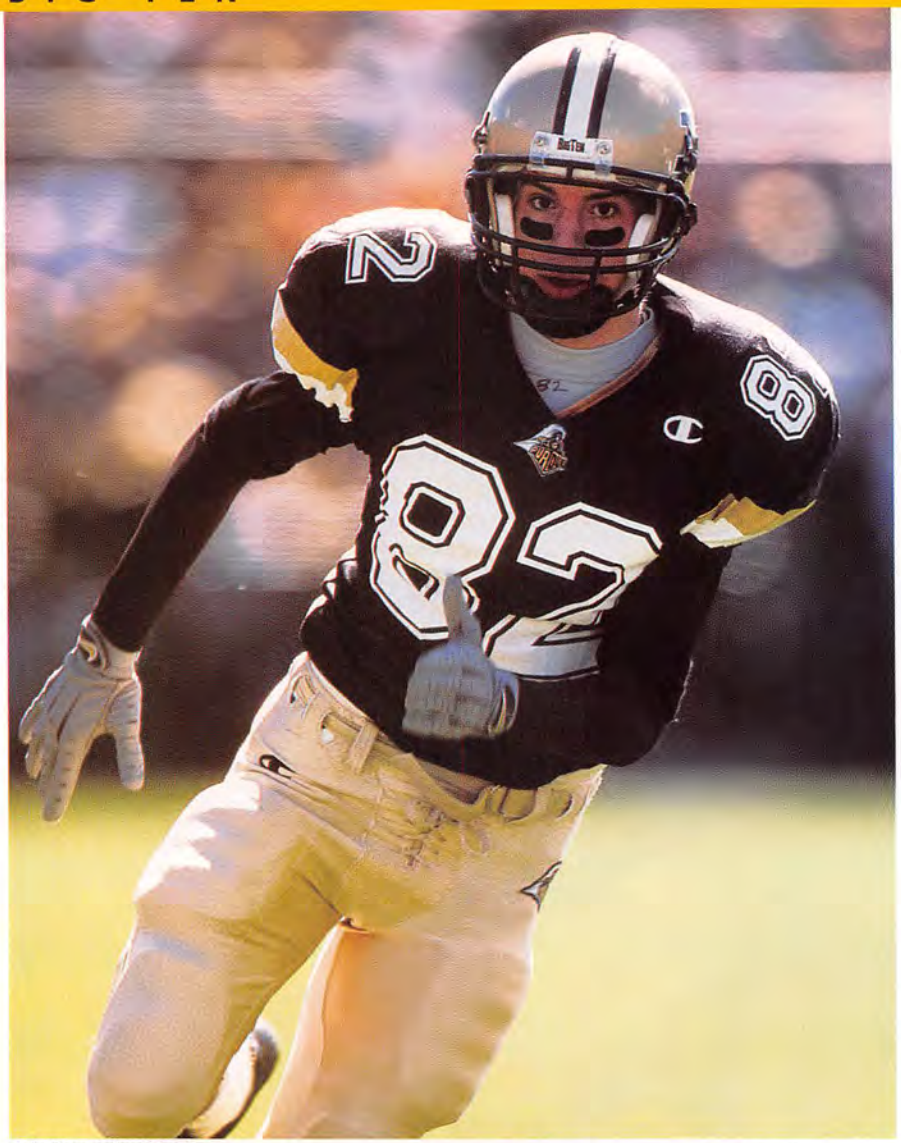
Illinois used 10 or 11 defensive linemen in most games last season and wound up with a school-record 40 sacks and 49 other tackles for loss. Tackles Brett Kautter, Jeff Ruffin and Charles Gilstrap and ends Mike O'Brien, Derrick Strong and Brian Schaefering lead the returnees.

The linebacking crew returns intact, led by standout Jerry Schumacher, who led the Illini last year with 125 stops and 17 tackles for loss. He is flanked by Ty Myers and Joe Bevis.

Cornerback Eugene Wilson led the nation with 30 passes broken up and had six interceptions en route to All-America honors. Opposite

Eugene Wilson, *Illinois*

BRUCE L. SCHWARTZMAN



John Standeford, *Purdue*

corner Christian Morton was second in the country with 26 deflections. The free safety should be Jamaal Clark or Marc Jackson. And the strong safety will likely be Taman Jordan or Kevin Anderson.

Peter Christofilakos, John Gockman or JJ Tubbs—or perhaps all three—will handle the placekicking. Matt Minnes or Steve Weatherford will do the punting following the departure of Steve Fitts. A breakdown there could be the difference between a New Year's Day bowl and a spot in the second division.

8 Purdue

After reaching the Rose Bowl for the first time in 34 seasons, the Boilermakers backslid to mediocrity at 4-4 in the Big Ten and 6-6 overall last season. That was the first non-winning record in Joe Tiller's five years as head coach in West Lafayette.

Purdue was outscored by 28 points last season and averaged just 20.8, the lowest total in the Big Ten. A program known primarily for offense produced only 320.2 yards per game, a plunge from fourth in the nation to 105th. And for Tiller's team to reach a bowl for the sixth straight year, a solid defense will have to be outstanding.

With a $70 million renovation of Ross-Ade Stadium in progress, Boilermaker football won't look exactly the same. But the team Tiller puts on the field should be easy to recognize with 17 returning starters.

The best of those players, and one of the three best players in the conference, should be free safety Stuart Schweigert, the only sophomore to be a semifinalist for the Jim Thorpe Award last season. He has already made 183 tackles and 11 interceptions for Purdue.

Defensive end Shaun Phillips, linebackers Landon Johnson and Joe Odom and strong safety Ralph Turner are the Boilermakers' other standouts on a defense that should be among the top three in the league.

Returning starters Craig Terrill at tackle and Gilbert Gardner at strongside linebacker will be solid contributors. Backups Brandon Johnson at tackle and Kevin Nesfield and Doug Swann at end should play important roles. And starter Antwaun Rogers and reserve Jacques Reeves are back at tailback.

After an up-and-down first year, quarterback Kyle Orton could be much improved. With the transfer of Brandon Hance, Orton should feel more comfortable, though his mobility remains in question.

The strength of the offense must be the wide receivers. Taylor Stubblefield had 73 catches for 910 yards. John Standeford had 47 grabs, while Seth Morales added 29. The problem could come at tight end, where Mike Rhinehart tries to replace Tim Stratton.

Montrell Lowe has one more season at running back after dropping from 998 rushing yards to 640 and dipping by nearly a yard per carry. Joey Harris could help there, too.

The offensive line should be better with the return of four starters. Center Gene Mruczkowski, right guard Rob Turner and tackles Pete Lougheed and Kelly Butler have enough experience. And Kelly Kitchell is the top returnee at left guard.

One major loss is sure to be the departure of placekicker/punter Travis Dortch, the school's first consensus All-America in 15 years. Reserve Andy Nelson or juco transfer Bevin Lacevic should be the kicker, while Aaron Levin is a possibility as the punter.

9 Indiana

A 5-6 season wasn't enough to save Cam Cameron's job in 2001. The born-and-bred Hoosier was fired after five seasons, making way for an invigorated Gerry DiNardo. And it didn't matter that the former Notre Dame star had six losing records in nine seasons at Vanderbilt and LSU.

DiNardo would have had a lot more fun this year if all-purpose standout Antwaan Randle El hadn't completed his eligibility. The nation's most dangerous runner/passer was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers and should help them as a receiver/kick returner.

It won't be easy to replace Randle El's 1,664 yards through the air or his 964 on the ground. But Tommy Jones began last season as the No. 1 quarterback and he deserves another chance to prove he can run the show in the program's new West Coast offense.

Where else could a 241-pound quarterback hand off to a 279-pound fullback behind a

JOHN WILLIAMSON

6-foot-8, 322-pound right tackle—or fake that and flip a pass to a 284-pound tight end? If size matters, Indiana could be in business.

The Hoosiers won't run the option as much without Randle El and All-Big Ten running back Levron Williams, who quietly rushed for 1,401 yards, a 6.6 average and 17 TDs in 2001. Career backup Brian Lewis is a possibility there.

With Jeremi Johnson at fullback, Indiana will have one experienced star. When a guy his size averages 5.7 yards per carry and 13.3 yards per catch, that says a lot about his breakaway ability or a team's other options—or both.

But all eyes will be focused on DiNardo—not a single offensive or defensive player—as he tries to establish his program's credibility. The hire received excellent reviews last winter, though that could change with some fans when his team starts to lose, as it almost surely will.

Up front, where DiNardo played and where the Hoosiers have to be successful, left tackle A.C. Myler and left guard Anthony Oakley have started 22 straight games. Right guard Enoch DeMar is a three-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree. And right tackle Bobby Brandt, a former tight end, is one of the conference's biggest players.

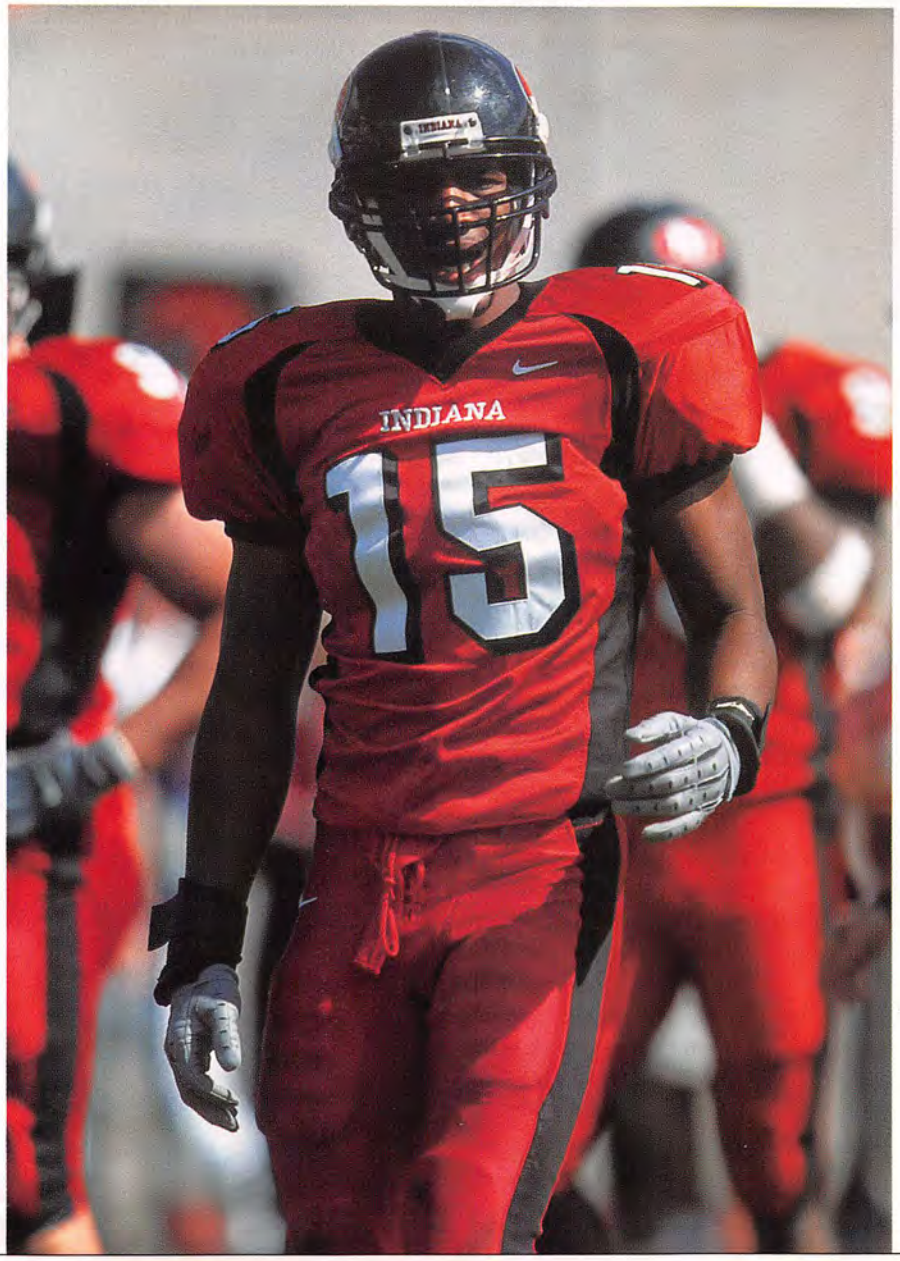
Kris Dielman, who started every game last year at tight end, is poised to have a big senior season. But wide receivers Travis Haney and Courtney Roby need to emerge for Jones to reach his potential as a passer.

End Derek Barnett started every game the past two years and should provide stability on defense. Tackles Jamil Frink and Colin Christopher each started about half the Hoosiers' games in 2001.

Herana-Daze Jones started the final six games last year as an undersized linebacker. But Indiana played a nickel look often enough that extra safety Ron Bethel made more starts than any returning linebacker.

Safety Joe Gonzalez and cornerback A.C. Carter supply experience in the secondary. But the Hoosiers have had too much experience losing games in recent years. "DiNardo Days" could change all that.

Ron Bethel, *Indiana*



10 Northwestern

After one of the great rebirths in NCAA history, the Wildcats returned to earth in 2001 and crashed with a 4-7 record. That wouldn't have been so disappointing to long-suffering Wildcat fans if Randy Walker's team hadn't been such a popular pick to rule the conference.

Northwestern returns with two new coordinators, Mike Dunbar on offense and Greg Colby on defense. But for a school that has had exactly one bowl win in 120 years of football, some change is probably a good thing.

Another important development is a return to health for one of the nation's most battered teams. Twelve starters or key reserves suffered season-ending injuries in 2001. And just 10 starters from that team are back, including four on offense.

Familiar names like quarterback and coach-on-the-field Zak Kustok, game-breaking running back Damien Anderson and wide receiver Sam Simmons were part of some of the greatest moments the Wildcats have known.

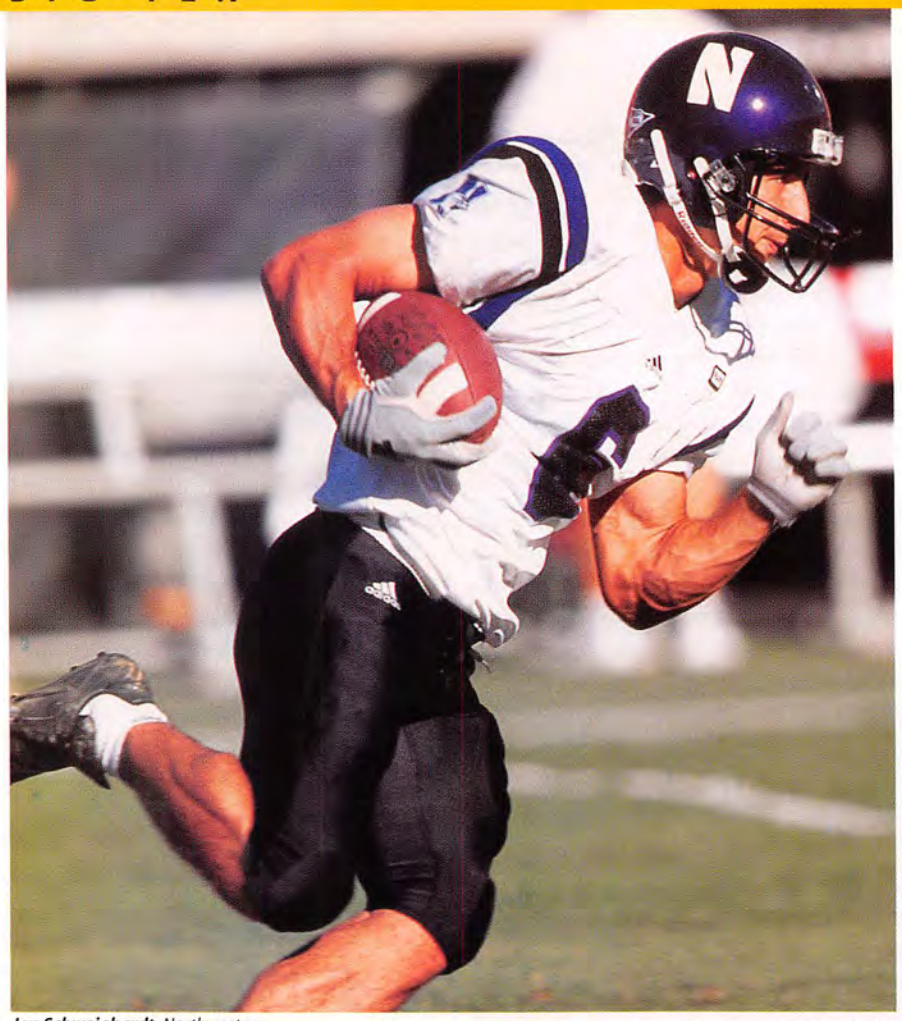
The new No. 1 quarterback could be Tony Stauss, Matt Danielson or Brett Basanez, though none can match Kustok's leadership or running ability. And the top running back is liable to be Kevin Lawrence, Torri Stuckey or Jeff Backes.

Luckily, there is established strength on the offensive line. Center Austin King and right guard Jeff Roehl could play for almost any team. The team's other starters appear to be left tackle Carl Matejka, left guard Matt Ulrich and right tackle Bill Newton.

If Northwestern has an established strength, it could be at the receiver positions. Kunle Patrick had 57 catches last season, while Jon Schweighardt added 43. Notre Dame transfer Jovan Witherspoon should provide a lift there, too.

The Wildcats had to play two true freshmen on the defensive line last season, and that lack of strength and experience showed. But Thomas Derricks and Luis Castillo should be better prepared to help returning tackle Colby Clark.

Northwestern's linebacking corps was decimated by the departures of All-Big Ten picks



Jon Schweighardt, *Northwestern*

Kevin Bentley and Billy Silva, plus linebacker-turned-end Napoleon Harris. That leaves only inside linebacker Pat Durr to lead the defense from that area. John Pickens, Doug Szymul, Eric VanderHorst, Braden Jones and Dan Pohlman are among the new candidates for playing time.

Cornerback Raheem Covington should be the leader of the secondary, but Dominique Price and Herschel Henderson gained essential experience there last season. Marvin Ward, Jarvis Adams and Mark Roush will also have to perform at a high level for the Wildcats to make another run at the first division.

11 Minnesota

In a year with no clear-cut favorite and no program that is guaranteed to finish last, Minnesota is an interesting team. Glen Mason's players have just enough ability to be a surprise contender and just enough holes that they could be looking up from the bottom of the pile.

With eight starters, including quarterback Asad Abdul-Khaliq, back on offense, the Gophers should have the firepower to scare any team on a given Saturday. Abdul-Khaliq improved last season and finished fifth in Big Ten passing efficiency. His running ability is unquestioned.

Minnesota should have a very strong running game, despite the departure of standout back Tellis Redmon. Marion Barber III was a pleasant surprise as a freshman and rushed for 742 yards on just 118 carries for a 6.3- yard average. And Thomas Tapeh could be ready to tap his potential as a marquee recruit.

The Gophers won't have always-reliable Ron Johnson to bail them out with big catches anymore, but Jermaine Mays is back at wide receiver after a redshirt year and appears to be as exciting as ever. Former juco star Antoine Burns also returns and should be better with a year of Big Ten experience. The team's best receiver might be tight end Ben Utecht.

Minnesota lost three starters on the offensive line but welcomes back massive left tackle Jake Kuppe and versatile Jeremiah Carter. Also available are guards Joe Quinn and Mark McElroy and tackles Rian Melander, Mark McIntosh and Ricky Wymer.

The defense will be led by fourth-year starter Michael Lehan at cornerback, where he led the Gophers in pass breakups the past two seasons. Cornerback Ukee Dozier is back. And safety Eli Ward should be a key performer, too, assuming he can stay healthy this year.

All three starting linebackers return, with Phil Archer a serious candidate for all-conference honors. He was fifth in the league in tackles last season. And Bradley Vance and Justin Fraley are also available to help the Gophers get their offense the ball back quicker.

The defensive line welcomes back starting tackles Dan Kwapinski and Darrell Reid. The ends could be Tony Dupree and Damian Haye, with Charlton Keith and Mark Losli pushing for playing time.

No team in the league has a better pair of specialists than placekicker Dan Nystrom and punter Preston Gruening. But the special teams did have four punts blocked, precisely the kind of gaffe that could drop Minnesota from contention to the basement. ■

Marion Barber III, *Minnesota*

LEFT TO RIGHT: STEVE BEYER, DAVID DUBOCHIK SPORTPICS

Top-heavy league will feature Austin Powers' showdown with the Sooners and Buffs.

BY BLAIR KERKHOFF
KANSAS CITY STAR

August through December could hardly have gone better for the Big 12. Teams swatted away top non-conference foes and locked up in tense league battles. The conference had four teams in the Top 10 toward the end of the season and three of them had shots at the national championship game.

The honors poured in. Nebraska quarterback Eric Crouch won the Heisman. Oklahoma safety Roy Williams took two major defensive awards. Sooners linebacker Rocky Calmus won another. They were among nine players who made somebody's All-America first team.

But then came January, specifically the Bowl Championship Series games.

Colorado, stung that it walloped Nebraska and won the Big 12 title game but was resigned to the Fiesta Bowl, was hammered by Oregon. Two days later, the Cornhuskers confirmed they didn't belong in the Rose Bowl by losing to Miami, 37-14.

Still, four Big 12 schools—Oklahoma, Texas, Nebraska and Colorado—finished in the Top 10. Seven teams went bowling. The Big 12 was never stronger than it was in 2001.

There could be a slight drop-off this year, or least a more pronounced shift of power. The North appears to be Colorado's. The Buffs became the first North team other than Nebraska and Kansas State to play in the league title game and are favored to repeat the feat. In the South, Texas gets the nod over Oklahoma, but both are the league's best bets for a national champion.

Predictions

North Division

1. **Colorado**
2. **Nebraska**
3. **Kansas State**
4. **Iowa State**
5. **Missouri**
6. **Kansas**

South Division

1. **Texas**
2. **Oklahoma**
3. **Texas Tech**
4. **Texas A&M**
5. **Oklahoma State**
6. **Baylor**

Games to watch

Texas vs. Oklahoma (at Dallas), October 12
Winner has inside track at national title game.

Texas at Texas Tech, November 16
This is never easy for the Longhorns.

Colorado at Nebraska, November 23
Huskers find themselves in rare payback position.

All-Big 12 Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Kliff Kingsbury**, senior, Texas Tech	DL—**Jimmy Wilkerson**, junior, Oklahoma
RB—**Cedric Benson**, sophomore, Texas	DL—**Chris Kelsay**, senior, Nebraska
RB—**Dahrran Diedrick**, senior, Nebraska	DL—**Cory Redding**, senior, Texas
WR—**Rashaun Woods**, junior, Oklahoma State	DL—**Tommie Harris**, sophomore, Oklahoma
WR—**Roy Williams**, junior, Texas	LB—**Lawrence Flugence**, senior, Texas Tech
TE—**Trent Smith**, senior, Oklahoma	LB—**Brian Gamble**, senior, Texas A&M
OL—**Rex Richards**, senior, Texas Tech	LB—**Jarrod Penright**, senior, Texas A&M
OL—**Wayne Lucier**, senior, Colorado	DB—**Sammy Davis**, senior, Texas A&M
OL—**Derrick Dockery**, senior, Texas	DB—**DeJuan Groce**, senior, Nebraska
OL—**Billy Yates**, senior, Texas A&M	DB—**Nathan Vasher**, junior, Texas
OL—**John Garrison**, senior, Nebraska	DB—**Donald Strickland**, senior, Colorado
K—**Luke Phillips**, junior, Oklahoma State	P—**Mike Mariscal**, senior, Colorado
RS—**Chris Massey**, senior, Oklahoma State	ATH—**Terence Newman**, senior, Kansas State

Rating the players

Faster receiver: **Roy Williams**, WR, Texas
Best hands: **Rashaun Woods**, WR, Oklahoma State
Best passing QB: **Kliff Kingsbury**, Texas Tech
Best option QB: **Seneca Wallace**, Iowa State
Most elusive RB: **Cedric Benson**, Texas
Best instincts: **Nathan Vasher**, S, Texas
Best athlete: **Terence Newman**, CB, Kansas State
Best under pressure: **Kliff Kingsbury**, QB, Texas Tech
Top NFL prospect: **Roy Williams**, WR, Texas
Top impact freshman: **Brad Smith**, QB, Missouri
Hardest hitter: **Jimmy Wilkerson**, DE, Oklahoma
Biggest underachiever: **Chris Simms**, QB, Texas

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Bob Stoops**, Oklahoma
Best recruiter: **Mack Brown**, Texas
Coach on the spot: **Kevin Steele**, Baylor

Don't be surprised if...

. . . Nebraska I-back **Dahrran Diedrick** doesn't repeat as Big 12 rushing champion. Yards will be more difficult to gain for all Husker backs now that the focus isn't on stopping quarterback Eric Crouch.

One man's opinion

"Every year I think Texas is the better team, and every year Oklahoma wins. The Longhorns have to find a way to get it done. When it comes to those schools, nothing else matters."
—a Big 12 assistant coach

Rating the recruits

1. Texas
The nation's best class, maybe one of the best ever.
2. Oklahoma
First great coup was keeping Stoops from Florida.
3. Colorado
Barnett pulls together a top 15 class.
4. Texas A&M
Reggie McNeal is quarterback of the future.
5. Kansas State
Juco-heavy class led by RB Daniel Davis.
6. Nebraska
A slip or the usual underrating? Time will tell.
7. Oklahoma State
Much better in Les Miles' second year.
8. Iowa State
Two straight bowl games paying off. Hit Texas hard.
9. Missouri
RB Mario Whitney was the key to keeping the state talent home.
10. Texas Tech
Still seeking the quarterback to replace Kingsbury.
11. Kansas
Late start for Mangino, but gets his QB in juco Bill Whittemore.
12. Baylor
The losing takes it toll all year.

NORTH DIVISION

1 Colorado

Has a program ever experienced the range of emotion like Colorado last season?

The Buffaloes, coming off a 3-8 season, roared through league play with one loss heading into the regular-season finale against nemesis Nebraska, which hadn't lost to the Buffs since 1990. Colorado took out a decade-plus worth of frustration on that day, clubbing the top-ranked Huskers 62-36.

Glee in Boulder turned even more joyous when the Buffs outlasted Texas for the Big 12 championship a week later. Then anger. Nebraska sneaked past all the challengers to gain the second BCS spot in the championship game.

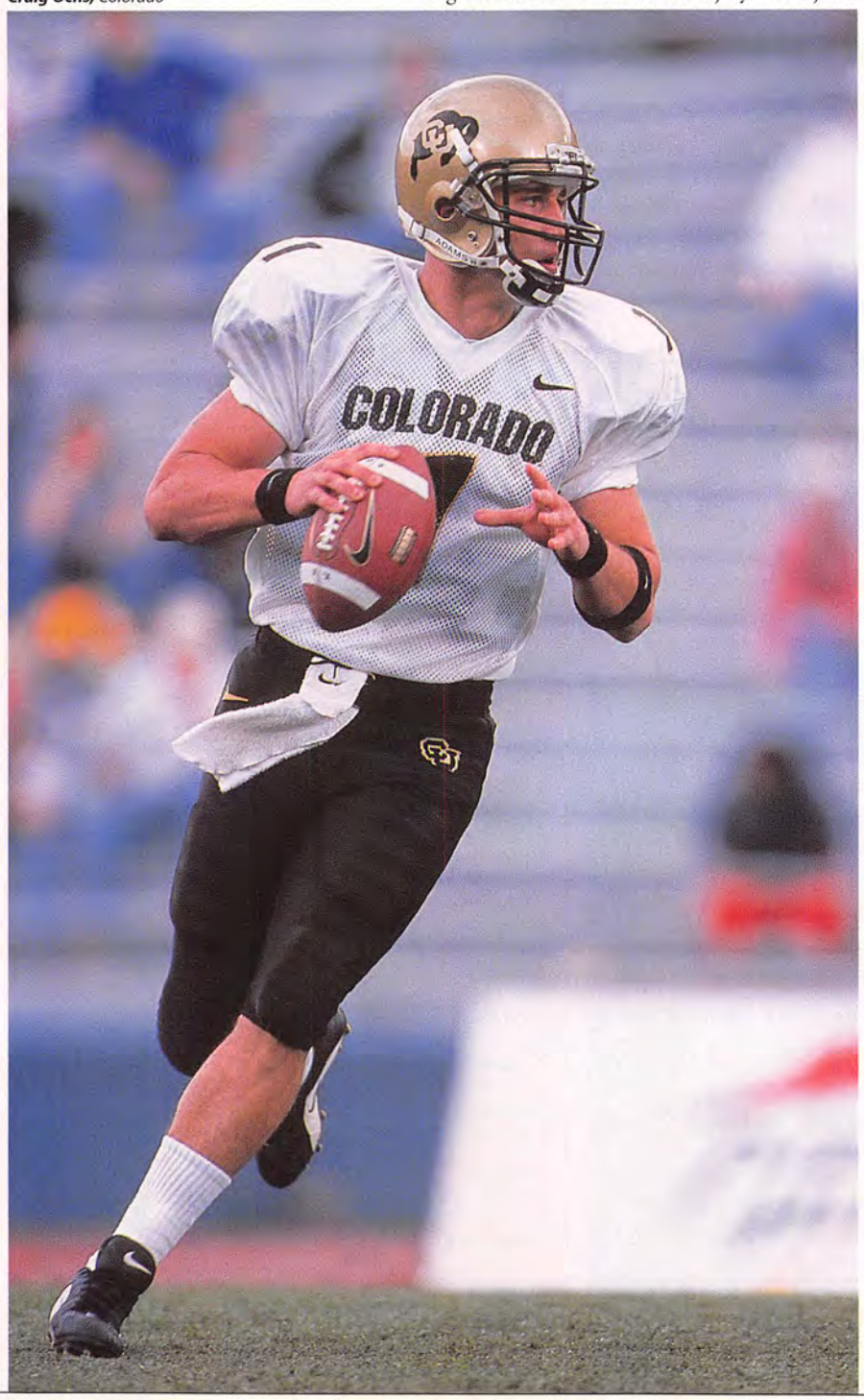
Finally, despair. Colorado didn't show up for its Fiesta Bowl date with Oregon, losing 38-16.

Colorado should get another chance to impress. The offense is solid. Quarterback Craig Ochs is healthy after missing the final five games of 2001 with an ankle injury. Oft-injured running back Marcus Houston also is back and joins a backfield stable of Chris Brown and Bobby Purify.

Eight defensive starters return, but headliner Michael Lewis, an all-conference safety, is gone. The secondary and offensive line are the Buffaloes' biggest question marks.

But the "Return to Dominance" mantra that coach Gary Barnett preached upon his return to Boulder four years ago no longer rings hollow. The Buffs are the North favorite.

Craig Ochs, *Colorado*



2 Nebraska

Rarely does a team get a second chance like the Cornhuskers did last season.

All seemed lost after Nebraska lost its No. 1 ranking and a shot at the Big 12 title with an embarrassing loss at Colorado. But through a bizarre turn of events—upsets to Oklahoma, Texas, Florida and Tennessee—the Huskers were back in the National Championship game facing Miami in the Rose Bowl.

Only to be embarrassed again.

The two losses shook the program, and not even the Heisman Trophy evening of quarterback Eric Crouch could ease the pain.

The record-setting Crouch, he of the 1,115 rushing yards and 18 rushing touchdowns, is gone. Jamaal Lord takes over, and the offense will be less about the quarterback and more about I-back Dahrran Diedrick, who led the Big 12 in rushing last season with 1,299 yards. He also rushed for 15 touchdowns.

Wilson Thomas, who set a school record for split ends with 37 receptions for 616 yards, is also a weapon that will be utilized.

In all, Nebraska is looking for 11 new starters, the biggest turnover in Frank Solich's five years as head coach. Besides Crouch, the Huskers must replace these headliners: tight end Tracey Wistrom, offensive guard Toniu Fonoti, defensive tackle Jeremy Slechta and cornerback Keyuo Craver.

The Huskers got a bonus when Jason Lohr, who started at nose tackle two years ago, received a medical hardship season. Also back are standout defensive end Chris Kelsay and cornerback DeJuan Groce, who is also one of the nation's top punt-return specialists.

Expectations are lower this year. The way last year ended, and the loss of Crouch, has left the program with less optimism than it has experienced in several years. Diedrick says he laughed when he saw somewhere where six or seven losses were possible for the Huskers. But four doesn't seem out of the question.

Chris Kelsay, *Nebraska*

3 Kansas State

Winning football means staff changes, and the revolving door spun at Kansas State again during the offseason. Defensive coordinator Phil Bennett took the SMU job and two coaches, Bob Fello and Jim Gush, went with him. Bob Elliott, a former Iowa State associate head coach, became the program's fourth defensive coordinator since 1995.

"We've done it every three years (change defensive coordinators)," coach Bill Snyder says. "It hasn't been a disruption before."

Former Iowa assistants Bert Bielema and Del Miller completed the staff. Miller is a former K-State assistant. Their charge is to maintain a lofty standard: The program hasn't allowed more than 300 yards per game in a season since 1994.

Defense shouldn't be the issue, not with all-conference candidates in linebacker Terry Pierce, cornerback Terence Newman and tackle Tank Reese.

Quarterback is the issue. Ell Roberson and Marc Dunn are back to continue a battle that lasted through the Insight.com Bowl loss to Syracuse. Dunn took most of the snaps in the spring while Roberson recovered from toe surgery. Last season, each threw for four touchdowns and nine interceptions. Neither convinced Snyder he should be the undeniable starter.

Running back also is open with the departure of Josh Scobey, the league's second-leading rusher. The favorite is Darren Sproles, one of two freshmen on last year's depth chart. Sproles totaled 210 yards on 28 carries despite missing three games with a bruised collarbone.

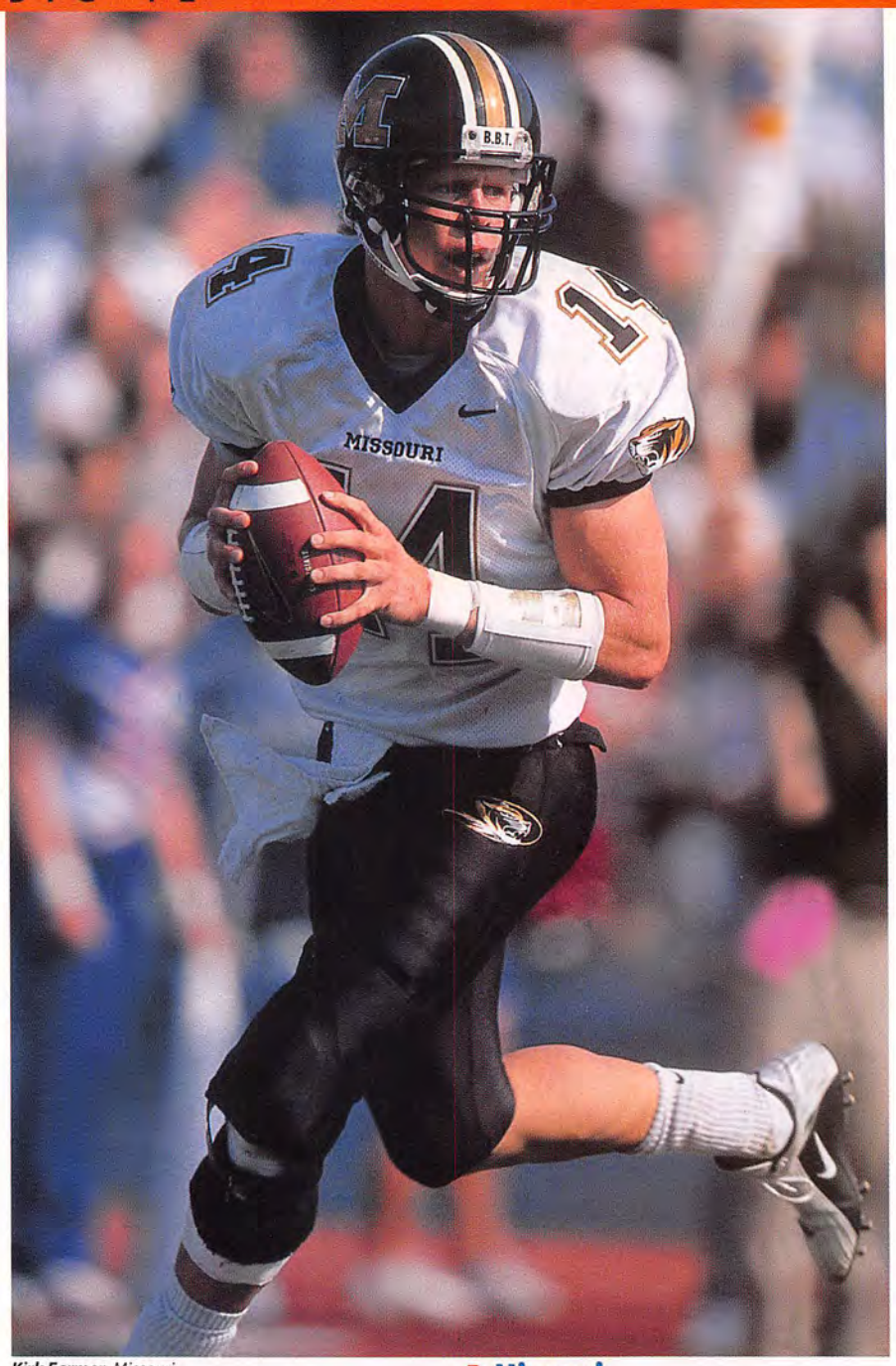
4 Iowa State

Quarterback was Iowa State's big question mark a year ago. Could Seneca Wallace replace Sage Rosenfels, who had led the program to its first bowl appearance in a quarter-century?

The answer was a resounding "yes." Wallace was voted the league's top newcomer after completing 167 of 269 passes (62.1 percent), with 11 touchdowns, 475 rushing yards and 2,519 yards of total offense.

Iowa State went bowling again, losing a heartbreaker to Alabama in the Independence Bowl. But the Cyclones will be expected to challenge for a third straight postseason trip because

Terry Pierce, *Kansas State*



Kirk Farmer, *Missouri*

of Wallace (now a senior) and eight returning starters on defense.

The big loss is running back Ennis Haywood. But the program cranks out 1,000-yard rushers at a remarkable pace. Iowa State is one of six schools to produce a 1,000-yard runner each of the last seven years. The top candidates are Michael Wagner, Hiawatha Rutland and JaMaine Billups.

Iowa State took a big step with its schedule, opening the season with Florida State in Kansas City on August 24. The Cyclones are playing 13 games in 14 weeks, wrapping up with a home game against Connecticut.

5 Missouri

Justin Gage's offseason lasted 10 days.

Missouri's unexpected run to the West Regional final kept Gage in a basketball uniform through much of March, delaying his spring football practice debut. But there he was, running through full-contact drills on only his second day back.

"We'd like to have a locker room full of that type of competitor," Tigers coach Gary Pinkel says.

Missouri's fortunate to have Gage this year. He strongly considered passing up his senior season for the NFL Draft. But the 6-foot-4, 200-pound wide receiver is back hoping to duplicate a 2001 season in which he caught 74 passes for 920 yards and five touchdowns.

Throwing most of those passes was Kirk Farmer, who can't seem to get through a season without a major injury. Farmer has some nice career numbers: 2,749 yards, 25 touchdowns, 597 rushing yards and seven touchdowns in 20 games.

But Pinkel has made no promises to Farmer, and will give redshirt freshmen Brad Smith and Sonny Riccio every opportunity to win the position. He moved Smith ahead of Farmer after the team's first spring scrimmage.

Center A.J. Ricker leads an offensive line with three new starters. The running game should be in good shape with Zach Abron, who rushed for 783 yards and six touchdowns last season.

Nine starters return on defense, led by linebacker Sean Doyle, who was third in the Big 12 with 129 tackles. A newcomer who could make a big impact is end Atiyyah Ellison, who signed with the Tigers out of high school but transferred in from Coffeyville (Kansas) Community College.

6 Kansas

New uniforms, a players' lounge, a new attitude. New coach Mark Mangino wants football to be special at Kansas, and he brought some touches from Oklahoma with him. But can he bring even a dash of the Sooners' success?

Mangino, the former Oklahoma offensive coordinator, faces a tough task. The last winning record in Lawrence was 1995. Terry Allen couldn't get it done and was fired with four games remaining in his fifth season.

Mangino's first big move came before spring practice when he dismissed quarterback Mario Kinsey, who had shown flashes of promise as a freshman. Kinsey's poor attitude cost him his spot, and Kansas likely will go with Bill Whittemore, a juco transfer from nearby Fort Scott Community College.

Before he signed, Whittemore spent a half-hour speaking with former Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel, who sent rave reviews on Mangino.

"We're hoping he will be a quick-impact guy," Mangino says of Whittemore, who was the Jayhawk Conference MVP in 2001 with 2,086 yards passing and 16 touchdowns.

SOUTH DIVISION

1 Texas

In the Mack Brown era, the population of superior quarterbacks has swelled in Austin.

But that always hasn't been a good thing.

Cory Redding, *Texas*

JOHN WILLIAMSON

The Major Applewhite-Chris Simms controversy ended badly for Brown. Simms, his choice, committed four turnovers in the Big 12 title-game loss to Colorado. Applewhite, the people's choice, rallied the Longhorns from a 17-point, fourth-quarter deficit to beat Washington in the Holiday Bowl.

Applewhite has moved on, and Simms prepares for his senior season. But wait, here comes sophomore Chance Mock, a former *Parade* All-America. Further down the depth chart is freshman Vincent Young, the nation's top high school player last year according to several sources.

Simms clearly is the starter but his performance in big games unnerves the Texas faithful. Still, he's surrounded by remarkable talent in running back Cedric Benson and wide receivers Roy Williams, B.J. Johnson and Bo Scaife. Confidence, not talent, is where Simms must improve.

The offensive line needs work. Gone is All-America tackle Mike Williams. The Longhorns are high on senior tackle Derrick Dockery, who's entering his third year as a starter.

On defense, linebacker is the reloading position. Reed Boyd ascends to the middle, and Derrick Johnson, one of the league's top freshmen last season, is on the outside. Johnson's 83 tackles were the best among Big 12 freshmen.

Safety Nathan Vasher is the best in the secondary, and he's also a terrific return man. In the spring game, Vasher returned a kickoff and punt for a touchdown in the fourth quarter. His teammates stopped kicking off to him and Brown made him fair-catch all punts.

The schedule isn't a killer. The Longhorns don't find harm's way until October and the life-or-death struggle with Oklahoma. In other years, trips to Kansas State and Nebraska would spell doom, but both programs are off peak. The November 16 visit to Texas Tech could be the toughest test after the Sooners.

Texas will be in everybody's top five, and some will make the Longhorns No. 1. A good year by Simms could make it happen.

2 Oklahoma

Oklahoma was poised for a second straight shot at the national championship when the Sooners got caught up in the rash of upsets that knocked out several BCS contenders. The loss to Oklahoma State might have been the most shocking. The Sooners were favored by four touchdowns, playing at home, and going against a freshman quarterback.

So Oklahoma settled for a Cotton Bowl victory over Arkansas and looks to return to the national championship picture this season. Personnel losses aren't measured in quantity but quality. Departed safety Roy Williams and linebacker Rocky Calmus were consensus All-Americas. Two All-Big 12 offensive linemen and the league's top punter and kicker are also gone.

But this is a resilient program. "I don't believe any of the players we lost were at such a level that we can't replace them," coach Bob Stoops says.

Meaning, the talent spring continues to gush.

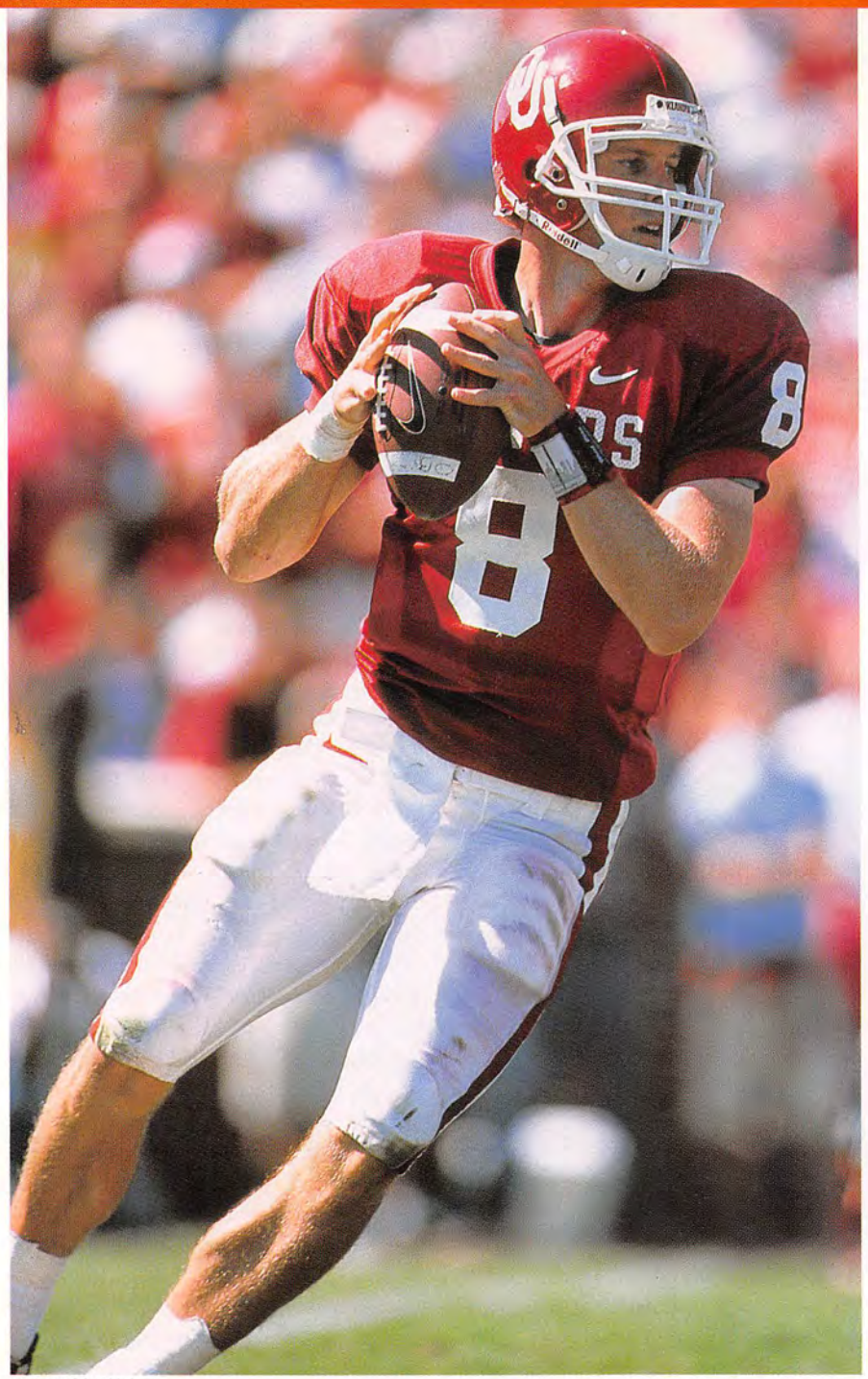
On defense, end Jimmy Wilkerson burst onto the scene and recorded a team-high five sacks. He's a candidate for Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year and will team with fast-improving sophomore tackle Tommie Harris to form a lethal pass rush. Teddy Lehman shifts from middle to weakside linebacker, Calmus' old position.

The middle and outside linebacker slots will be filled by a pair of juco transfers from City College of San Francisco, Lance Mitchell and Pasha Jackson. The scouting report on the newcomers: fast. That's the trademark of the Sooners' defense.

Eric Bassey, a redshirt freshman, is the top candidate to fill Williams' strong safety/linebacker role, but others like Avery Shine and Michael Thompson have worked there. Thompson, a starting corner in 2000, survived life-threatening injuries in an auto accident last year.

Free safety Brandon Everage and corners Derrick Strait and Andre Woolfolk give Oklahoma the best secondary in the Big 12.

Quarterback Nate Hybl started the season, got injured against Texas and lost the role to Jason White, who got injured against Nebraska.



Nate Hybl, *Oklahoma*

Hybl finished the year as starter, but the offensive production dropped noticeably from previous seasons.

Offensive coordinator Mark Mangino took the Kansas job and Stoops hired Northwestern's Kevin Wilson, who's melding the Wildcats' spread offense with Oklahoma's.

The Sooners seek a more effective running game. They rushed for 56 yards on 61 attempts in the final two games of '01. The running attack will be built around Quentin Griffin, who has 32 touchdowns in three seasons.

The new face among the wide receivers is the position coach, Darrell Wyatt. He moves over from Oklahoma State.

3 Texas Tech

Nebraska must replace Eric Crouch. Oklahoma has to fill Roy Williams' shoes. But ask folks around Lubbock about key personnel losses, and they'll tell you about Ricky Williams.

"No words can describe how much we're going to miss him," Tech quarterback Kliff Kingsbury says.

Williams finished his career with 3,661 rushing yards, third on the school's career list. But his role changed dramatically when coach Mike Leach brought the spread offense in three years ago from Oklahoma. Williams became more of a receiving threat and caught 92 passes last year.

Leach said it's probable three or four players would fill Williams' role. Candidates are Taurean Henderson, who played on defense last year while redshirting, junior college transfer Johnnie Mack and junior Foy Munlin.

Anton Paige, *Texas Tech*

Whoever gets open, Kingsbury will find him. He enters his senior season as the second-most productive passer in school history with 7,412 yards and 50 touchdowns. After a game or two, Kingsbury should have the 395 yards he needs to become No. 1.

Last season, Kingsbury led the Big 12 in completions with 364, attempts at 529, yards with 3,502 and touchdowns with 25. In any other year, he's the All-Big 12 quarterback and a strong All-America candidate. But he played in the same league as Eric Crouch, the Heisman Trophy winner.

"Kliff's numbers have rivaled anybody's in the last two years," Leach says.

To help spread the word, Tech has started a web site, www.kliffkingsbury.com. But nothing sells like winning, and Kingsbury will get to make an early honors bid when Tech opens its season at Ohio State in the Pigskin Classic. Kingsbury has several experienced wideouts back to throw to, including Anton Paige, Carlos Francis and Nehemiah Glover.

In all, 17 starters return, including nine on defense. Linebacker Lawrence Flugence led the Big 12 in tackles with 145, and end Aaron Hunt recorded a school-record 12 sacks.

4 Texas A&M

ESPN chronicled Texas A&M's 2001 season, and the Aggies completed the story with their first bowl victory since 1995. A&M started the season 7-1 with victories over Notre Dame, Kansas State and bowl-bound Iowa State, then ended the regular schedule with three straight losses.

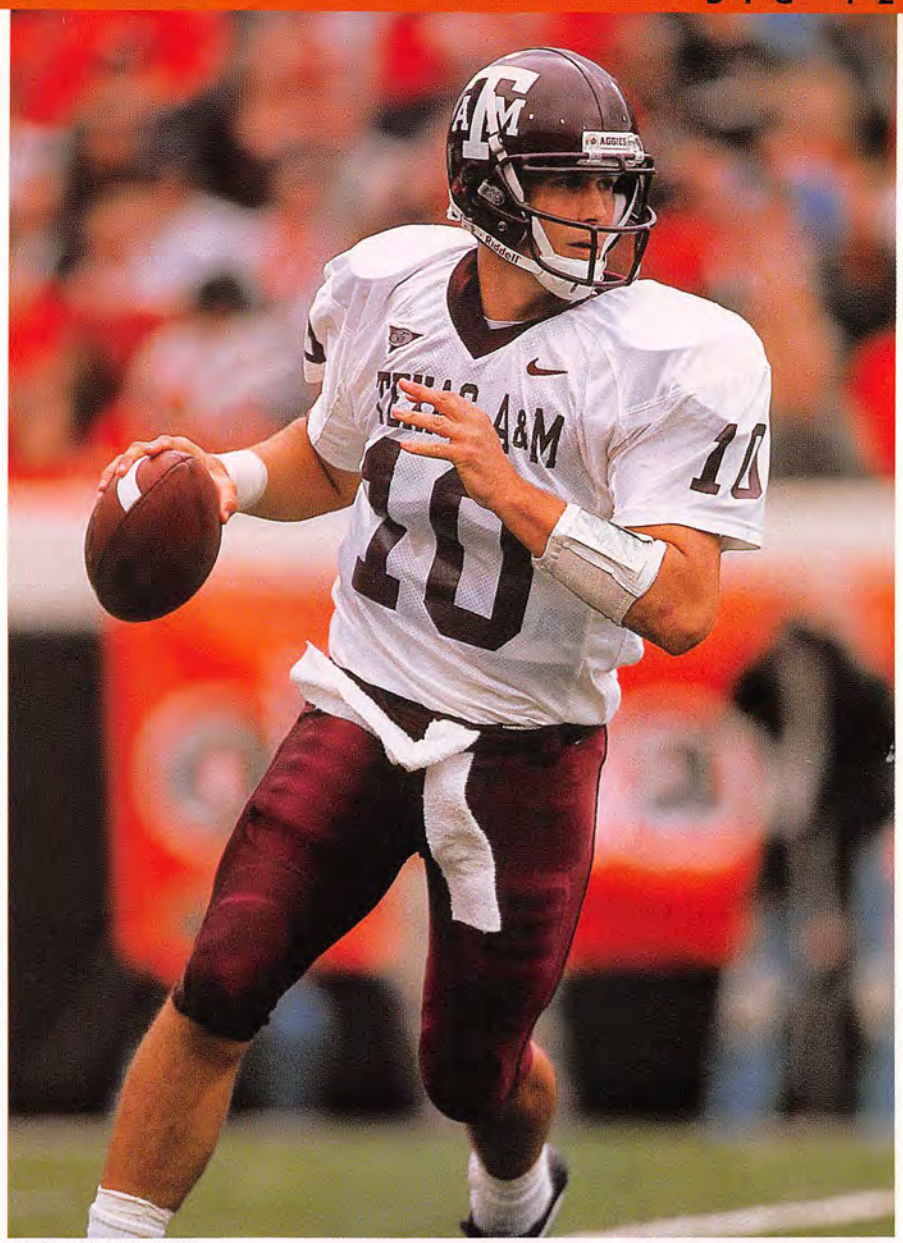
The reactions might have made for good television, but things got uncomfortable for coach R.C. Slocum, who found himself fielding questions about job security.

The bowl victory, an easy triumph over TCU in the galleryfurniture.com game, helped, but the Aggies still find themselves closer to the middle than upper tier, a position they held in the late 1990s.

The priority on offense is to reestablish the running game. This was a program once known for its tough running, even recently. The image of Ja'Mar Toombs carrying three Oklahoma defenders into the end zone in 2000 continues to burn.

But last season A&M rushed for a paltry 1,254 yards—the program's lowest total since 1970—and ranked 107th nationally in total offense. The big problem was the lack of speed. The Aggies are trying to solve that by switching Dwain Goynes from wide receiver to running back, and Keith Joseph from tailback to fullback.

Goynes has run the second-fastest 40 time (4.25) ever recorded at A&M. At 5-10, 184 pounds, he could give A&M the outside threat it needs to balance the offense.



Mark Farris, *Texas A&M*

JOHN WILLIAMSON

If the spring game was any indication, the offense is in better shape. Quarterback Mark Farris fired a pair of touchdown passes in a contest that featured eight touchdowns. A year earlier, all the scoring in the spring game was five field goals.

Cornerback Sammy Davis, who topped the Big 12 with five interceptions last season, leads what should be a stout defense.

5 Oklahoma State

The media, coaches and everybody else who votes on an all-conference team probably blew this one. Wide receiver Rashaun Woods should have done better than second team.

After all, Woods led the Big 12 in receptions with 80 and receiving yards with 1,023. He missed out on first-team honors that went to Missouri's Justin Gage and Texas' Roy Williams.

Who shouldn't have been on the team is open for debate. Who should have been included isn't.

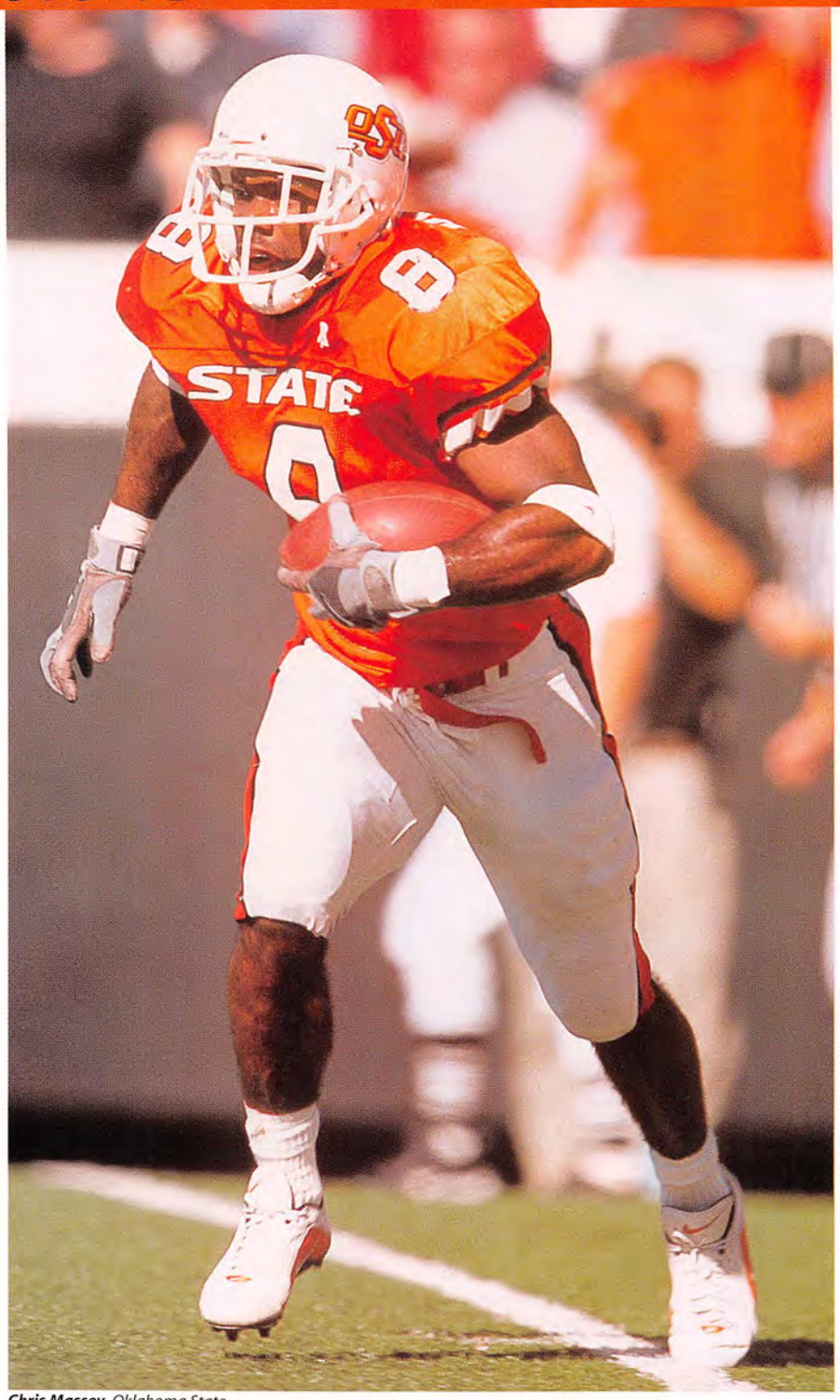
"Deep down, I felt like I should have been first-team," Woods says. "But they already had it picked, I think."

So the publicity push is on for Woods, not just for all-conference but All-America as well. A few more victories would go a long way in helping the campaign.

Not that the Cowboys disappointed their fans last season. Beating Oklahoma in the regular-season finale was enough to excuse the uneven first season (4-7) of the Les Miles regime.

"It proved what we're capable of doing," Miles says.

The game also produced a quarterback battle for this season. Josh Fields came off the bench,



Chris Massey, *Oklahoma State*

spelling starter Aso Pogi, to complete 19 of 38 passes for 231 yards against the Sooners.

Pogi has started 17 straight games, but his spring workouts were limited because of injuries suffered in an offseason auto accident. But the Cowboys think so much of Fields that Miles rearranged the spring practice schedule to accommodate Fields' baseball schedule.

Sixteen returning starters, including safety Chris Massey, the nation's top kick returner last season, and a heralded recruiting class give Miles reason for optimism.

6 Baylor

A Hail Mary fell incomplete in the end zone at Texas A&M. They were competitive in three other games, including a two-touchdown loss at Oklahoma. The Baylor Bears are inching closer to that elusive first Big 12 victory of the 21st Century.

The conference losing streak stands at 29. It could end there. The Bears open Big 12 play on October 5 against fellow cellar-dweller Kansas in Waco. The Jayhawks were Baylor's previous victim, losing to the Bears on October 10, 1998.

Baylor's hopes rest on 10 returning defensive starters, led by middle linebacker John Garrett. The offensive standout is wide receiver Reggie Newhouse, the team's leading receiver each of the last two seasons. Newhouse caught 61 passes for 706 yards and eight touchdowns last season.

The quarterback will be senior Greg Cicero, coming off a 1,239-yard, six-touchdown season. But the Bears like sophomore Davon Vinson, who played well in the spring game. Baylor's one-back offense should get a boost from new coordinator Dave Baldwin, formerly at Cincinnati and the head coach at San Jose State before that. ■

John Garrett, *Baylor*

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CONFERENCE USA

Three-peat likely to be in the 'Cards' for Louisville.

BY ERIC CRAWFORD
THE (LOUISVILLE) COURIER-JOURNAL

When John L. Smith became the Louisville coach four years ago, there was nowhere for the program to go but up. This fall, after four straight bowl appearances and back-to-back Conference USA championships, the only way to move up is to move out.

Specifically, out of the AXA Liberty Bowl—destination of the C-USA champion—and into an at-large spot in the Bowl Championship Series.

Perfection is the ambition this season in Louisville. It's the hope for senior quarterback Dave Ragone's long-shot Heisman Trophy chances and for the program to continue the steady climb it has made under Smith. But there are plenty of obstacles. The Cardinals lost six starters on offense (four on the offensive line) and play three straight early road games before a huge matchup at home against Florida State on September 26.

And the C-USA teams, who have beaten Louisville just twice in the past two years, don't figure to make a three-peat very easy. C-USA is one of just three conferences (along with the Big East and Mid-American) that returns every head coach from a year ago, and that stability likely will mean improvement from top to bottom, though it won't be particularly dramatic.

Southern Miss, which dominated the league before Louisville's recent run, is within striking distance of the top once again with senior running back Derrick Nix healthy again after sitting out last season with a kidney ailment. Cincinnati sophomore quarterback Gino Guidugli broke onto the scene as the league's star-in-waiting last season and would like to stop waiting this year. Though he's still playing in the shadow of Ragone, he'd like to follow in Ragone's footsteps and lead his team to a conference title as a sophomore.

TCU and Memphis figure to be better under second-year head coaches, while Steve Logan at East Carolina has promised a more creative approach in Greenville.

Predictions

1. **Louisville**
2. **Southern Mississippi**
3. **Cincinnati**
4. **TCU**
5. **Memphis**
6. **East Carolina**
7. **UAB**
8. **Houston**
9. **Army**
10. **Tulane**

Games to watch

Louisville at Memphis, October 8
Tigers have a chance to shake things up early.

Southern Miss at TCU, October 30
Winner stays in Liberty Bowl contention.

Louisville at Southern Miss, November 14
Rivalry could be for the C-USA championship.

All-Conference USA Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Dave Ragone**, senior, Louisville	DL—**Dewayne White**, junior, Louisville
RB—**Mewelde Moore**, sophomore, Tulane	DL—**Antwan Peek**, senior, Cincinnati
RB—**Dante Brown**, senior, Memphis	DL—**Terrell Paul**, senior, Southern Miss
WR—**LaDaris Vann**, senior, Cincinnati	DL—**Chad Pugh**, junior, TCU
WR—**LaTarence Dunbar**, senior, TCU	LB—**Rod Davis**, junior, Southern Miss
TE—**Ronnie Ghent**, senior, Louisville	LB—**LaMarcus McDonald**, senior, TCU
OL—**Brian Rimpf**, junior, East Carolina	LB—**John Williamson**, senior, East Carolina
OL—**Jamal Powell**, senior, TCU	DB—**Anthony Floyd**, senior, Louisville
OL—**Jeremy Bridges**, senior, Southern Miss	DB—**Greg Brooks**, junior, Southern Miss
OL—**Josh Shneyderov**, junior, Cincinnati	DB—**Glenn Sumter**, junior, Southern Miss
OL—**Jimond Pugh**, senior, Memphis	DB—**Hanik Milligan**, senior, Houston
PK—**Seth Marler**, senior, Tulane	P—**Jarad Preston**, senior, East Carolina

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **LaTarence Dunbar**, TCU
Best hands: **LaDaris Vann**, WR, Cincinnati
Best passing QB: **Dave Ragone**, Louisville
Best option QB: **Thomas Cox**, UAB
Most elusive RB: **Mewelde Moore**, Tulane
Best instincts: **Anthony Floyd**, DB, Louisville
Best athlete: **Dewayne White**, DL, Louisville
Best under pressure: **Seth Marler**, PK, Tulane
Best pro prospect: **Dave Ragone**, QB, Louisville
Top impact freshman: **Earl Anderson**, DT, TCU
Hardest hitter: **Rod Davis**, LB, Southern Miss
Biggest underachiever: **Albert Means**, DL, Memphis

Rating the coaches

Best recruiter: **Jeff Bower**, Southern Mississippi
Best strategist: **John L. Smith**, Louisville
Coach on the spot: **Watson Brown**, UAB

Don't be surprised if...

. . . sophomore **Gino Guidugli** of Cincinnati is among the nation's leaders in passing yards.

One man's opinion

"Louisville is good, but with all the offensive starters they lost, they're vulnerable.'"
—a C-USA assistant

Rating the recruits

1. Southern Miss
Impressive juco haul could put Golden Eagles back in the hunt.

2. Houston
Dana Dimel hammers home state for another impressive class.

3. Louisville
John L. Smith brings in his strongest class yet.

4. Memphis
Tommy West is mining Memphis talent well.

5. TCU
DT Earl Anderson could be C-USA's top freshman.

6. East Carolina
Steve Logan mixes juco additions with usual solid group.

7. UAB
Watson Brown gets his share of Alabama talent.

8. Tulane
Texas QB Billy Don Malone is star of the crop.

9. Cincinnati
Minter finds it tough to match his Guidugli coup.

10. Army
Todd Berry signs six high school QBs.

1 Louisville

Coach John L. Smith arrived in Louisville with a reputation for high-scoring teams that liked to throw the ball, and his early Cardinals teams reflected that. But this year Smith is counting on his defense to show the way.

No team in college football has forced more turnovers the past two seasons than Louisville. With junior defensive end Dewayne White, one of the best in the nation at his position, bringing pressure, and C-USA's all-time interception leader, safety Anthony Floyd, ball-hawking in the secondary, Smith is stacked on defense.

Ten starters return, and Smith wasn't able to settle on a starting rotation on the defensive line this spring because his depth was so impressive.

"A great defense is a quarterback's best friend," Cardinals QB Dave Ragone says. "And we're probably going to need them early on."

The offense struggled in the spring as Smith searched to replace four starters on the offensive line and the team's top two wideouts. Smith also is replacing two key coaches, with offensive coordinator Scott Linehan gone to the Minnesota Vikings and offensive line coach Art Valero having been hired by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The arrival of former John Pettas from out West (where he was an offensive assistant at Arizona State and, most recently, Washington) as offensive coordinator means the Cardinals will continue to spread it around on offense, but Ragone will be throwing to some green targets. Junior college transfer James Taylor is expected to contribute immediately, but wasn't cracking the starting lineup coming out of spring. The same is true for true freshman Greg Tinch.

And Louisville still is searching for a running back. Junior T.J. Patterson emerged from spring ball with the job, largely because his competition—freshman Lionel Gates and senior Henry Miller—was hurt.

Louisville faces a difficult early schedule, which includes a trip to Colorado State before a September showdown against Florida State at home. Having already logged two trips to the Liberty Bowl, a major question could be how the Cardinals respond to an early loss, should they experience one.

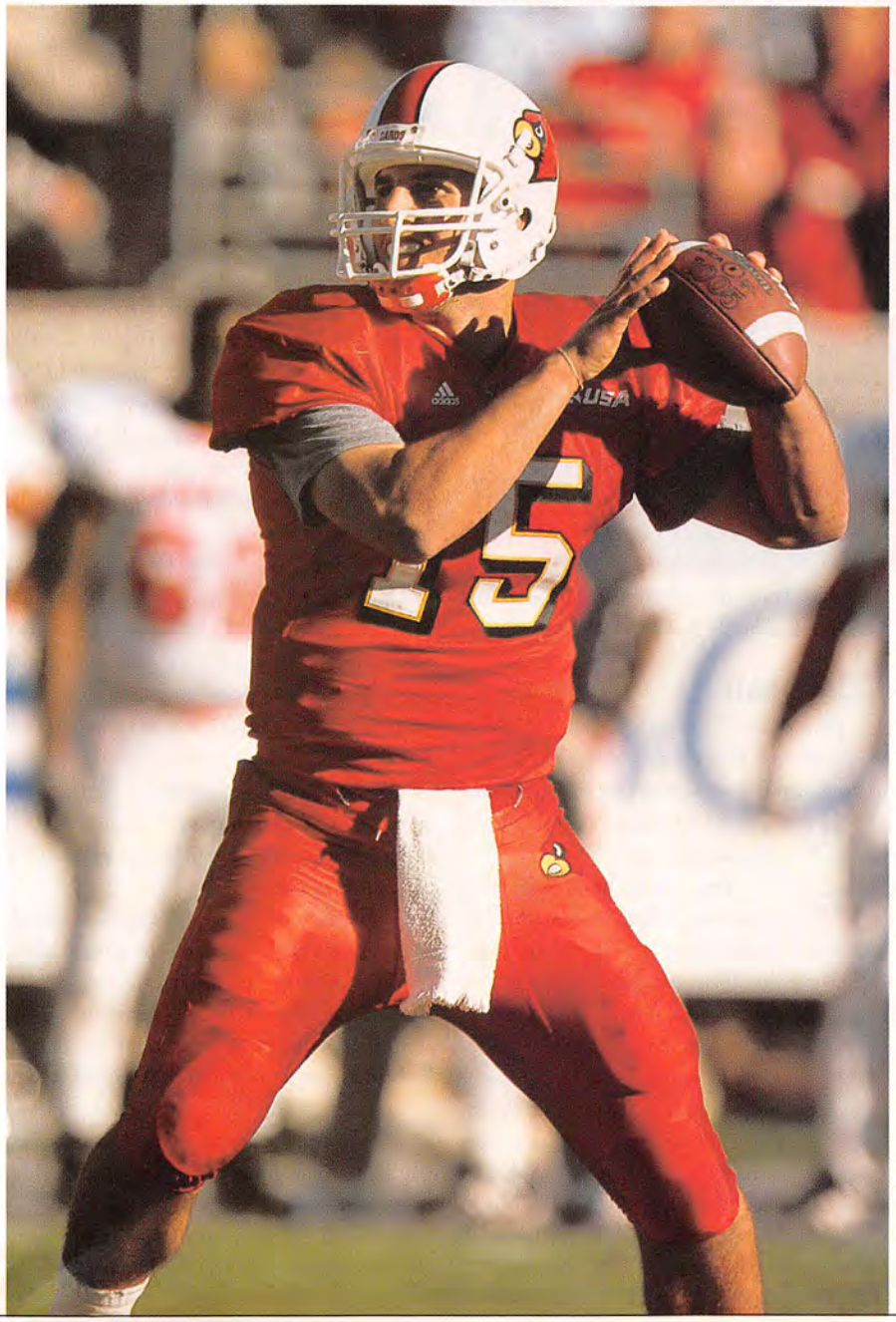
Still, they aren't planning on that.

"We're going to be all right," Smith says. "We know we have the talent; we just have some guys in some positions on offense who haven't played enough. But I always look at it like this: If you've got a guy back there at quarterback who can throw it around a little bit, you always have a chance. And we've got a guy back there who is one of the best in the country."

Ragone has thrown for 50 touchdowns and just 18 interceptions in two seasons, and is 20-5 as a starter. He does return one of his favorite targets in senior tight end Ronnie Ghent.

"We believe in this system and we know we're going to move the ball," Ragone says. "But it won't hurt if our defense is doing it's thing early to give us time to grow."

Dave Ragone, *Louisville*



JOE ROBBINS

2 Southern Miss

Golden Eagles coach Jeff Bower believes he has the makings of one of C-USA's best offenses. He just needs to settle on a quarterback. It was a three-way battle with no clear winner in the spring. Redshirt sophomore Micky D'Angelo has a slight edge, with Zac White, another redshirt sophomore, and redshirt freshman Dustin Almond within striking distance.

"We had good competition in the spring and we'll just keep that going right into the fall," Bower says. "It would be hard to give anybody the nod right now. Dustin is a little more mobile, but the other guys have thrown the ball well."

Whoever gets the starting call will take over an offense with nine starters returning, the most significant being feature back Derrick Nix, who appeared to be 100 percent in spring practice. Nix has rushed for 1,000 yards in each of his past two seasons, but had to sit out last season with a

DeMarco McCleskey, *Cincinnati*

kidney problem. If he returns to his old form, it could take significant pressure off an inexperienced quarterback.

Three starters return on the offensive line, and four receivers with starting experience are back.

"I feel pretty good about our offense," Bower says. "We just need to develop some leadership."

Bower has always fielded a strong defense, and he returns eight starters from a unit that ranked eighth nationally in scoring defense last season. Junior rush end Terrell Paul is one of the best in C-USA up front, while Rod Davis anchors the linebacking corps and Greg Brooks returns as one of the top cornerbacks in the conference. Etrick Pruitt is one of the league's best hitters at free safety.

While Bower is known for taking his team into some difficult environs in non-conference play, the C-USA schedule shapes up as a major factor in Southern Miss' favor this season. The Eagles get Louisville, Cincinnati, Memphis and East Carolina in Hattiesburg.

3 Cincinnati

How's this for knocking on the door? Cincinnati has finished second in C-USA each of the past two seasons. Can talented sophomore quarterback Gino Guidugli put the Bearcats on top?

From what he showed as a freshman, he can. Whether that will happen this year, though, is up in the air. Coach Rick Minter has 16 starters back on what he feels may be the most talented team he has coached at Cincinnati, but it will face a challenging schedule.

In addition to a much-anticipated early-season matchup with Ohio State in Paul Brown Stadium on September 21, the Bearcats must travel to Southern Miss, East Carolina and Louisville. They also have a late-season trip to Hawaii on November 23, with games the week before and after.

Still, there is excitement over the ability of Guidugli, a hometown star who elected to stay in the Queen City after originally committing to Kentucky. He won league Freshman-of-the-Year honors after passing for 2,573 yards and 16 touchdowns.

He'll have his favorite target back in senior receiver LaDaris Vann, and senior DeMarco McCleskey appears ready to step into the starting running back spot.

The biggest question is on the offensive line. While three starters are back, depth is a concern, with just four players returning who have logged significant playing time.

Eight starters return on defense, but the Bearcats will need those players to improve after giving up 176 rushing yards per game in 2001. Senior defensive end Antwan Peek is a three-year starter and one of the top defensive linemen in the league, while safeties Ivan Fields and Doug Monaghan lead a solid secondary.

Cincinnati also has an All-America back at kicker. Senior Jonathan Ruffin won the Lou Groza Award for the nation's best kicker two seasons ago.

4 TCU

Gary Patterson is tired of firsts. Last season wasn't just his first as the Horned Frogs' head coach, but it was the school's first in Conference USA.

Despite those obvious adjustment issues, TCU managed a late-season run that included a 37-22 pounding of league-champion Louisville to earn a berth in the galleryfurniture.com Bowl.

This year, Patterson says his staff and players should benefit from having a year under their belts, but they will have to break in one major newcomer. Quarterback Casey Printers, saying he wasn't getting to throw the ball as much as he wanted, transferred out before his senior year to Division I-AA Florida A&M.

Senior Sean Stilley expects to step into his spot coming off an impressive spring game. In limited action last season, he completed 63.2 percent of his passes.

He has a seasoned cast around him, including four returning starters on the offensive line. LaTarence Dunbar and Adrian Madise are as talented as any one-two receiving punch in C-USA. And there is plenty of competition at tailback, with Texas transfer Kenny Hayter, Ricky Madison and Corey Connally fighting for playing time.

Defensively, Patterson will build around a pair of all-conference standouts—Chad Pugh at nose tackle and LaMarcus McDonald at linebacker—and 2001 Freshman All-America safety Marvin Godbolt. Patterson says Dunbar may take

a crack at playing both ways, adding some snaps at safety to his work at wideout.

Patterson is concerned with the open linebacker spot that belonged to standout Chad Bayer last season.

But overall, Patterson has lost just 13 lettermen and fully expects to pick up with the momentum gained at the end of last season, when the Horned Frogs routed Louisville by holding the Cardinals to minus-47 yards rushing. They finished 10th nationally against the run.

"Based on last season's performance, and with the players we have returning, we thought we had a chance to be ranked as a preseason Top 25 program," Patterson says. "So now the question is how people will perceive us without a guy like Casey coming back, even though we have a senior quarterback in Sean Stilley returning. We can't dwell on the loss of Casey. It's really no different than replacing a senior."

5 Memphis

As defensive coordinator, Tommy West built the Memphis defense into one of the best units in the country. But it is the Tigers' offense that has made the biggest strides since he took over as head coach.

All of a sudden the Tigers have a skill trio on offense that can match up with any in the league. Sophomore quarterback Danny Wimprine has emerged as a team leader after playing in nine games as a freshman and throwing for 1,329 yards and 14 touchdowns. He gained confidence as the year progressed and took another significant leap in spring practice.

The man he replaced, Travis Anglin, is settling into his new role as a wide receiver, showing in spring practice that he has become more polished at the position and more sure-handed and precise in running routes. He joins an impressive group that includes junior Antoine Harden and sophomore Darron White.

And running back Dante Brown appears poised for a 1,000-yard rushing campaign after running for 902 yards and 4.9 yards per carry as a junior.

Could this be the year Memphis puts it all together? A strong enough nucleus returns on defense that, if the offense begins to blossom, the Tigers could cause real problems.

Alabama transfer Albert Means and defensive end Tony Brown anchor the defensive line, while linebacker Greg Harper and strong safety Derrick Ballard give the Tigers leadership throughout the unit.

"We feel like we're building in the right way," West says. "We've tried to maintain a level of excellence on the defensive side and establish that on offense."

A Tuesday night matchup with Louisville on national television in the Liberty Bowl on October 8 could be a coming-out party for the Tigers, provided they can weather early trips to Ole Miss and Southern Miss.

6 East Carolina

It's fair to say that no team in C-USA lost more leadership and quality than ECU with the graduation of quarterback David Garrard, running back Leonard Henry and linebacker Pernell Griffin. But coach Steve Logan is known for taking creative approaches, and he's been hard at work on another one.

There's plenty of excitement around sophomore QB Paul Troth, a former prep standout from Davidson, North Carolina, who had an impressive spring. And Logan was impressed enough with sophomore backup Desmond Robinson that he'll likely play one series each half, much as Richard Alston did behind Garrard.

Alston, meanwhile, has found a home at wide receiver, where he'll need to take a more active role with an inexperienced group.

The strength of the offense is on the line, where four out of five starters return, though not necessarily in starting spots. Competition there was heated in the spring, with senior tackle Brian Rimpf and junior center Doug White leading the way.

The vacuum created by Henry's graduation at running back will be filled by a pair of talented but untested runners in Art Brown and Marvin Townes. Despite his losses on offense, Logan is

***Marvin Godbolt,** TCU*

JOHN WILLIAMSON

Brandon Middleton, *Houston*

reasonably confident in his team's ability to move the ball.

It's on defense where the real questions begin. The Pirates return much of their secondary, but it was a secondary that struggled last season. Never was that more evident than in their 64-61 loss to Marshall in the GMAC Bowl, the highest-scoring bowl game in history.

Logan has done some tweaking on defense, but hasn't abandoned his 3-4 base. He'll have to replace the entire defensive line and has shifted some personnel in the defensive backfield, but he has three solid returning starters at linebacker in Christshawn Gilliam, John Williamson and Jerome Steward and hopes to get some leadership from Kelly Hardy at free safety.

Injuries were a bit of a problem in the spring. Damarcus Fox, who expects to see playing time at halfback, suffered a knee injury that required surgery, as did cornerback Travis Cox, one of a handful of redshirt freshmen Logan hopes can provide immediate help this fall.

The schedule isn't the bear it has been in years past for ECU, but the Pirates still must travel to Louisville and Southern Miss.

"We have some talented young people who are going to get their chance," Logan says. "I think it's an exciting time."

7 UAB

These are trying times for Blazers coach Watson Brown.

Just before last season, the team was hit with allegations of sexual misconduct against a number of players. This year, while they were in the midst of spring football, debate began on the future of the UAB athletic program, which is in the midst of a budget crisis.

None of that makes recruiting any easier, and it doesn't help that after expecting to be in the hunt for a league title a year ago, the Blazers finished 6-5 and out of the bowl picture.

But that doesn't mean there aren't some bright spots returning. Quarterback Thomas Cox is 6-1 as a starter and takes the reigns of an offense that began to click late last season before a season-ending 24-6 loss at Pittsburgh. He is one of eight returning starters on offense, including standout senior wideout Willie Quinnie and four starters on the offensive line. The biggest offensive question is who will replace star running back Jegil Dugger? The answer likely is sophomore Theron Dudley, who won the starting job in the spring.

On defense, Brown must replace almost everybody from a unit that led the nation in rushing defense last year, including bookend linemen Bryan Thomas and Eddie Freeman, who were selected 22nd and 43rd overall, respectively, in April's NFL Draft. But he thinks this year's group may be even better than last year's in the secondary, where cornerback Dio Hill is one of only two returning starters. Brown says he had his team do more hitting this spring than he ever has before in an effort to identify his best tacklers. He knows one of them will be returning free safety Chris Brown, but sophomore cornerback Kenneth Harris finished the spring with a huge performance.

The schedule will be trying. The Blazers will open at Florida, but do get their first two C-USA games at home against Memphis and Houston. Their toughest tests—at Louisville and Cincinnati—won't come until the final two weeks of the season.

8 Houston

One of these days Cougar coach Dana Dimel's recruiting successes figure to start paying off. He's hoping it could be this year, with 22 redshirt freshmen battling to get into the game after enduring last season's 0-11 record from the sidelines.

But a large part of the challenge facing Dimel is to wipe the memory of last season's frustration from the minds of his young players.

"It's important for us to use 2001 as a learning experience and that's it," he says. "We need to wipe it off the slate. We learned from our mistakes. Now we need to move on."

Junior Nick Eddy, who started four games at quarterback last season, enters the fall with the edge for the starting spot again, but he has competition from redshirt freshmen Blade Bassler and Barrick Nealy.

Dimel has two quality returnees on the offensive line in center Al James and left guard Rex Hadnot. And the receiving corps, despite the loss of all-time leading pass catcher Orlando Iglesias, should be talented and deep with junior KeyKowa Bell and sophomore Mark Hopkins. Senior Brandon Middleton ranked second nationally with an average of 24.3 yards per catch last season.

Sophomore running back Joffrey Reynolds proved effective running and receiving last season, rushing for 534 yards and catching 24 passes to establish career highs in both categories.

FRANK DIPANDO

There's plenty of promise on offense, but if Houston is to end its 15-game losing streak, the Cougars are going to have to stop someone. Senior Hanik Milligan was sometimes a lone shining light on defense last season. The safety led Houston with 174 total tackles (102 solos). Dimel is hoping a shored-up defensive line keeps Milligan from being quite so busy this season.

Dimel also has plenty of experience back at linebacker and in the secondary, but it's a big question whether they grew up enough last season to make a dent in the 39.3 points and 435 yards of offense they allowed per game. Damien West, a transfer from Texas A&M, is expected to bring immediate help at linebacker.

9 Army

Third-year coach Todd Berry is eager to get his first recruiting class into the mainstream of his program this season, but a corps of sophomores is going to have to step into some large holes. The Black Knights went 3-8 last season after going 1-10 in Berry's first year.

Three sophomores are competing for time at quarterback, led by Reggie Nevels, a talented scrambler who has shown big-play ability. The Knights return their top three running backs—juniors C.J. Young and Josh Holden and sophomore Ardell Daniels—and all three have registered 100-yard games.

Berry will have to replace star wideout Omari Thompson, who graduated, and junior Anthony Miller, who died of a heart attack on February 1. Three starters are back on the offensive line.

"We have more players in our program with the ability to fit in our system than we've had in the past," Berry says. "Our first recruiting class has had a chance to mature and grow within the schemes a bit. Hopefully, we will see their talent begin to flourish."

On defense, Berry must replace linebacker Brian Zickefoose, the team's leading tackler the past two seasons, but he does have senior and three-year starter Jason Frazier back to add experience and leadership. Junior Ryan Kent has shifted to an outside linebacker spot.

A group of sophomores will battle for time in the secondary, while Berry says his team's depth is improving on the defensive line.

"Last spring, as a team we had some depth issues," Berry says. "We have a much more talented team and we are much deeper than we have been. With that added depth, we are better suited to duplicate game speed in practice. I think we're right on track to where we expected to be, and the third year is always an important one in turning a program around."

10 Tulane

Fourth-year coach Chris Scelfo has two problems: The offensive players he must replace, and the defensive players he has back.

Quarterback Patrick Ramsey has graduated to the NFL's Washington Redskins, and the Green Wave will have four new starters on the offensive line.

The biggest returning bright spot is running back Mewelde Moore. He became the first NCAA back to run for more than 1,250 yards and catch more than 60 passes in a season last year. He led the team in rushing and receiving and averaged 6.6 yards every time he touched the ball.

Tulane also appears to be solid at quarterback with junior J.P. Losman taking over the starting job after starting one game in each of the past two seasons. He threw for 487 yards and four TDs in three games last season.

But with only one returning starter on the offensive line, and the players who are stepping in lacking experience, Scelfo says the going was slow in the spring.

"It's a spot where it takes some time for guys to jell," Scelfo says.

The defense didn't jell at all last season. It gave up 41.2 points per game and was rattled by inexperience and injury. Every starter is back, but how much the unit can improve is a major question. They have a new leader in first-year defensive coordinator Eric Schumann. He spent the spring shifting personnel, particularly at linebacker.

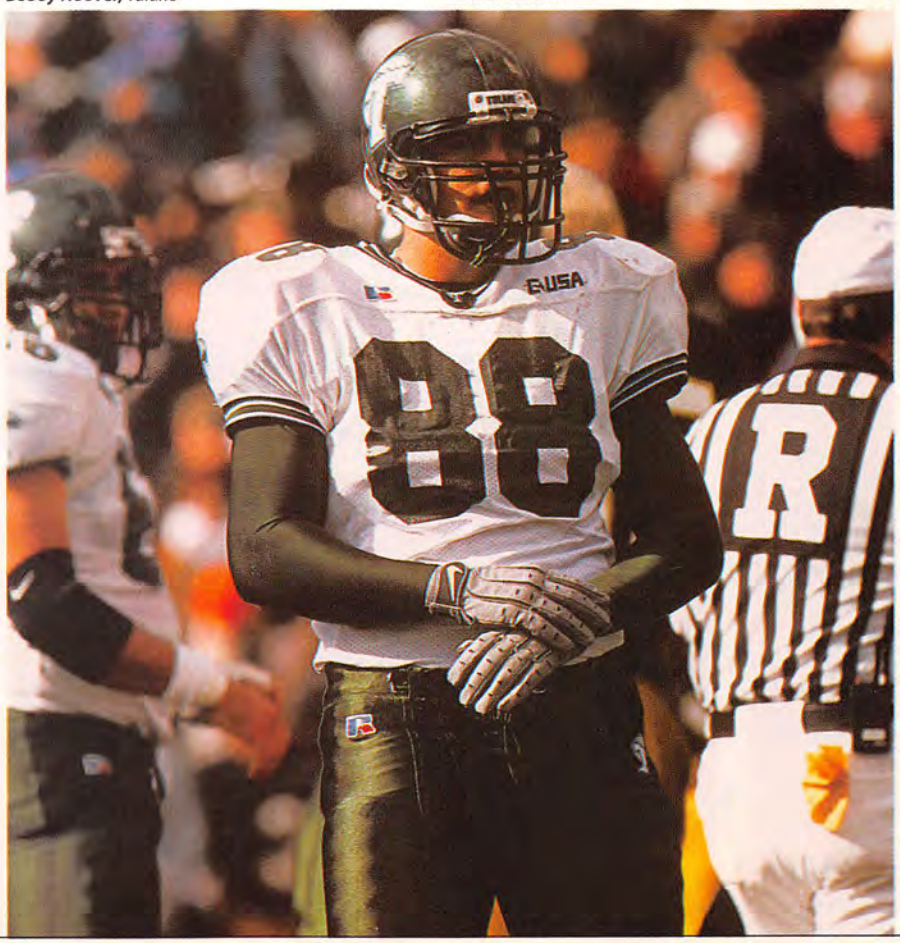
With Losman and Moore, along with some talented receivers led by Roydell Williams, Nick Narcisse and tight end Bobby Hoover, the offense likely will continue to move the ball effectively.

But the Green Wave's fortunes largely will rest this season on how much their young defensive group can improve. Scelfo returns 12 players who started at least six games on defense last season.

Senior safety Adrian Mitchell, who ranked 20th nationally in tackles with 138 last season, is the top returnee. Senior Kenan Blackmon is back to anchor the line from his defensive end spot, where he has led the team in sacks for two of the past three seasons.

Scelfo and Schumann still have plenty of defensive work to do in the fall—especially in solidifying the linebacking corps—to avoid the pinball-type numbers the Wave gave up last season. ■

***Bobby Hoover,** Tulane*



FRANK DIBRANGO

In 'Year of the Receiver,' give Quack Attack a slight edge.

BY DWIGHT CHAPIN
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Over the years, the Pac-10 has been a league of quarterbacks and running backs, including Heisman Trophy winners Jim Plunkett and O.J. Simpson. This season, make room for wide receivers.

There seem to be good ones everywhere, starting with all-conference first-team picks Keenan Howry of Oregon and Shaun McDonald of Arizona State, both of whom tied a Pac-10 record last season by catching four touchdown passes in a single game—the first time that had happened in eight years. Then there are a pair of sprint stars, Kareem Kelly of Southern Cal and Reggie Williams of Washington, a quick bloomer who set league records for most passes caught by a freshman (55) and most receiving yards (973). Add in the likes of Stanford's big Teyo Johnson, who was Co-Freshman of the Year with Williams, and teammate Luke Powell, Washington State's Mike Bush, Oregon State's James Newson and Arizona's Bobby Wade, and it's apparent the Pac-10's defensive coordinators will have their hands full.

It may be a season of scoring throughout the conference, as a pair of offensive minds, Buddy Teevens and Jeff Tedford, move in as head coaches at Stanford and Cal, respectively. There's no clear-cut favorite, although the upper hand could well remain in the Pacific Northwest, where Oregon, Washington and Washington State look like strong championship contenders, in just about any order, with the southern California schools the wild cards.

Oregon, under Mike Bellotti, appears to be at the stage where it can reload rather than rebuild any season now, although quarterback Joey Harrington could prove tough to replace. Washington and Washington State both have experienced returning quarterbacks, with the Cougars' Jason Gesser probably the league's all-around best.

Both bay area schools, both Arizona schools and Oregon State have work to do.

Predictions

1. Oregon
2. Washington
3. Washington State
4. Southern Cal
5. UCLA
6. Stanford
7. Oregon State
8. Arizona
9. Arizona State
10. California

Games to watch

Oregon at Washington State, November 9
Cougars are a bear to play in Pullman.

Washington at Oregon, November 16
Unfriendly rivalry continues, maybe with a title in the balance.

Oregon at Oregon State, November 23
"Civil War" is third league toughie in a row for the Ducks.

All-Pac-10 Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Jason Gesser**, senior, Washington State	DL—**Terrell Suggs**, junior, Arizona State
RB—**Onterrio Smith**, junior, Oregon	DL—**Shaun Cody**, sophomore, Southern Cal
RB—**Clarence Farmer**, junior, Arizona	DL—**Eric Manning**, senior, Oregon State
WR—**Keenan Howry**, senior, Oregon	DL—**Rodney Leisle**, junior, UCLA
WR—**Shaun McDonald**, junior, Arizona State	LB—**Kevin Mitchell**, junior, Oregon
TE—**Brett Pierce**, junior, Stanford	LB—**Lance Briggs**, senior, Arizona
OL—**Kwame Harris**, sophomore, Stanford	LB—**Richard Seigler**, junior, Oregon State
OL—**Mike Saffer**, senior, UCLA	DB—**Dennis Weathersby**, senior, Oregon State
OL—**Derrick Roche**, senior, Washington State	DB—**Ricky Manning**, senior, UCLA
OL—**Greg Schindler**, senior, Stanford	DB—**Troy Polamalu**, senior, USC
OL—**Lenny Vandermade**, junior, USC	DB—**Keith Lewis**, junior, Oregon
PK—**Drew Dunning**, junior, Washington State	P—**Nate Fikse**, senior, UCLA

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Kareem Kelly**, USC
Best hands: **Reggie Williams**, WR, Washington
Best passing QB: **Jason Gesser**, Washington State
Best option QB: **Jason Gesser**, Washington State
Most elusive RB: **Onterrio Smith**, Oregon
Best instincts: **Troy Polamalu**, S, USC
Best athlete: **Terrell Suggs**, DL, Arizona State
Best under pressure: **Jason Gesser**, QB, Washington State
Top NFL prospect: **Kwame Harris**, OL, Stanford
Top impact freshman: **Manuel Wright**, DL, USC
Hardest hitter: **Lance Briggs**, LB, Arizona
Biggest underachiever: **Cory Paus**, QB, UCLA

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Mike Bellotti**, Oregon
Best recruiter: **Rick Neuheisel**, Washington
Coach on the spot: **Bob Toledo**, UCLA

Don't be surprised if...

. . . offensive whiz **Jeff Tedford** puts some real bit in the Cal Bears in his first season as head coach.

One man's opinion

"We never had a problem in the conference unti he started talking about negative recruiting. He's doing a lot of negative recruiting. He's taking a lot of potshots at anybody."

—UCLA coach Bob Toledo, letting hi feelings be known during a public war o words several Pac-10 coaches had in th spring with Washington's Rick Neuheise

Rating the recruits

1. Southern Cal
Major boost on both sides of the ball, especially in defensive lineman Manuel Wright.

2. UCLA
Tight end Marcedes Lewis is a gem.

3. Washington
Good overall class, with offensive lineman Nathan Rhodes the prize.

4. Arizona State
Help arrives on defensive line and in the secondary

5. Stanford
Quick, strong beginning for new coach Buddy Teevens.

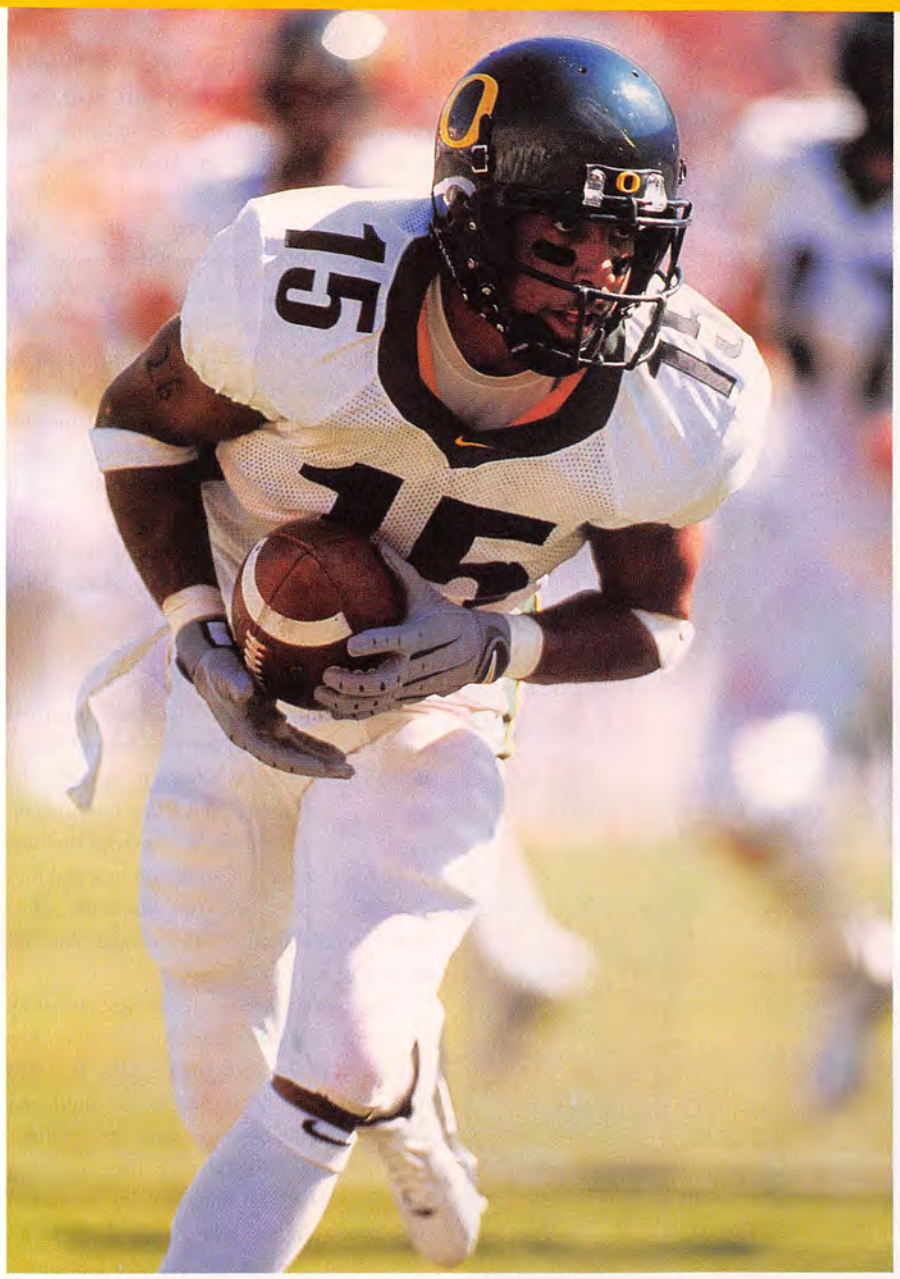
6. Arizona
Big things expected from wide receiver Michael Jefferson.

7. Oregon
Slow start, finished fast with defensive tackle Haloti Ngata.

8. Washington State
Class led by a trio of JC running backs.

9. Oregon State
Wide receiver James Finley could be a sleeper.

10. California
Late start didn't help.



Keenan Howry, Oregon

1 Oregon

There's one big question hanging over the Ducks: Is new quarterback Jason Fife ready to give a rough approximation of Heisman Trophy finalist Joey Harrington? If he is, coach Mike Bellotti's team should be in an excellent position to approach its spectacular 2001 season (11-1 overall, 7-1 and first in the Pac-10) in which the Ducks closed with a 38-12 win over Colorado in the Fiesta Bowl and a No. 2 final national ranking.

If Fife, a 6-foot-4 junior, or backups Scott Vossmeyer and Kellen Clemens fall short of what Bellotti is looking for, the load will fall increasingly on talented tailback Onterrio Smith, who rushed for more than 1,000 yards despite playing in tandem with the departed Maurice Morris, who was also a thousand-yard rusher, and wide receiver Keenan Howry (52 receptions, nine TDs), who is also an excellent punt returner.

Offensively, in addition to Harrington, the Ducks will have to replace the left side of the line, but three starters are back—tackle Corey Chambers, guard Joey Forster and center Dan Weaver—and 345-pound freshman tackle Albert Toeaina could help. Jason Willis again will be opposite Howry at wide receiver.

The kicking game is good shape with the return of punter Jose Arroyo (38.7-yard average) and placekicker Jared Siegel, who had 72 points to share team scoring honors with Howry.

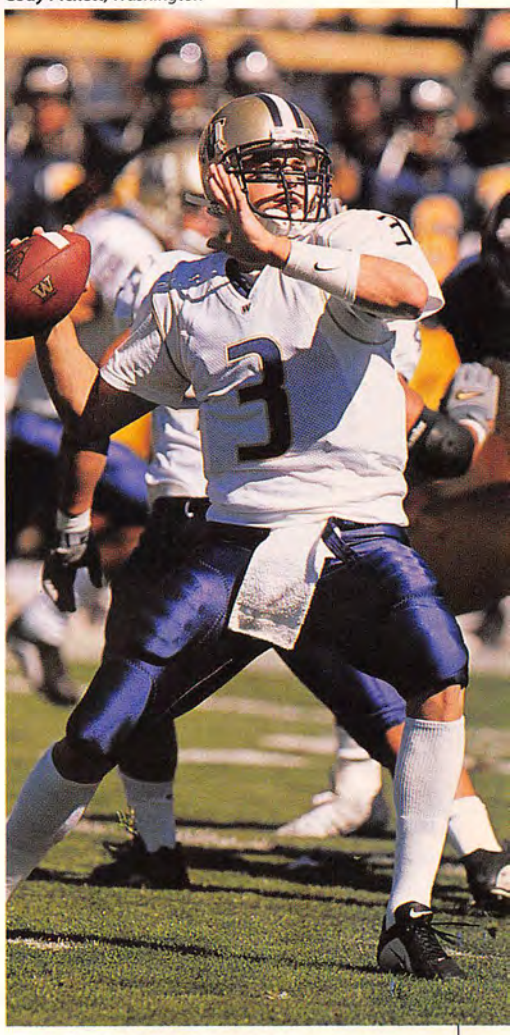
The major concern on defense is at cornerback, where multi-year starters Rashad Bauman and Steve Smith are gone. Backup Steve Moore and special-teams player Courtney Miller will get the first looks to replace them, with redshirt freshman Justin Phinisee and Charles Favroth and Eddie Smith also in the mix. The defensive line returns starters Seth McEwen, Quinn Dorsey and Darell Wright. Experienced tackles Igor Olshansky and Robby Valenzuela should be helped greatly by the addition of two big tackles, 335-pound JC transfer Junior Siavii and 310-pound freshman Haloti Ngata.

Kevin Mitchell, who led the team with 104 tackles, including 23 for losses and six quarterback sacks, and David Moretti lead the linebacking corps. Junior Keith Lewis is a standout free safety and senior Rasuli Webster a capable strong safety.

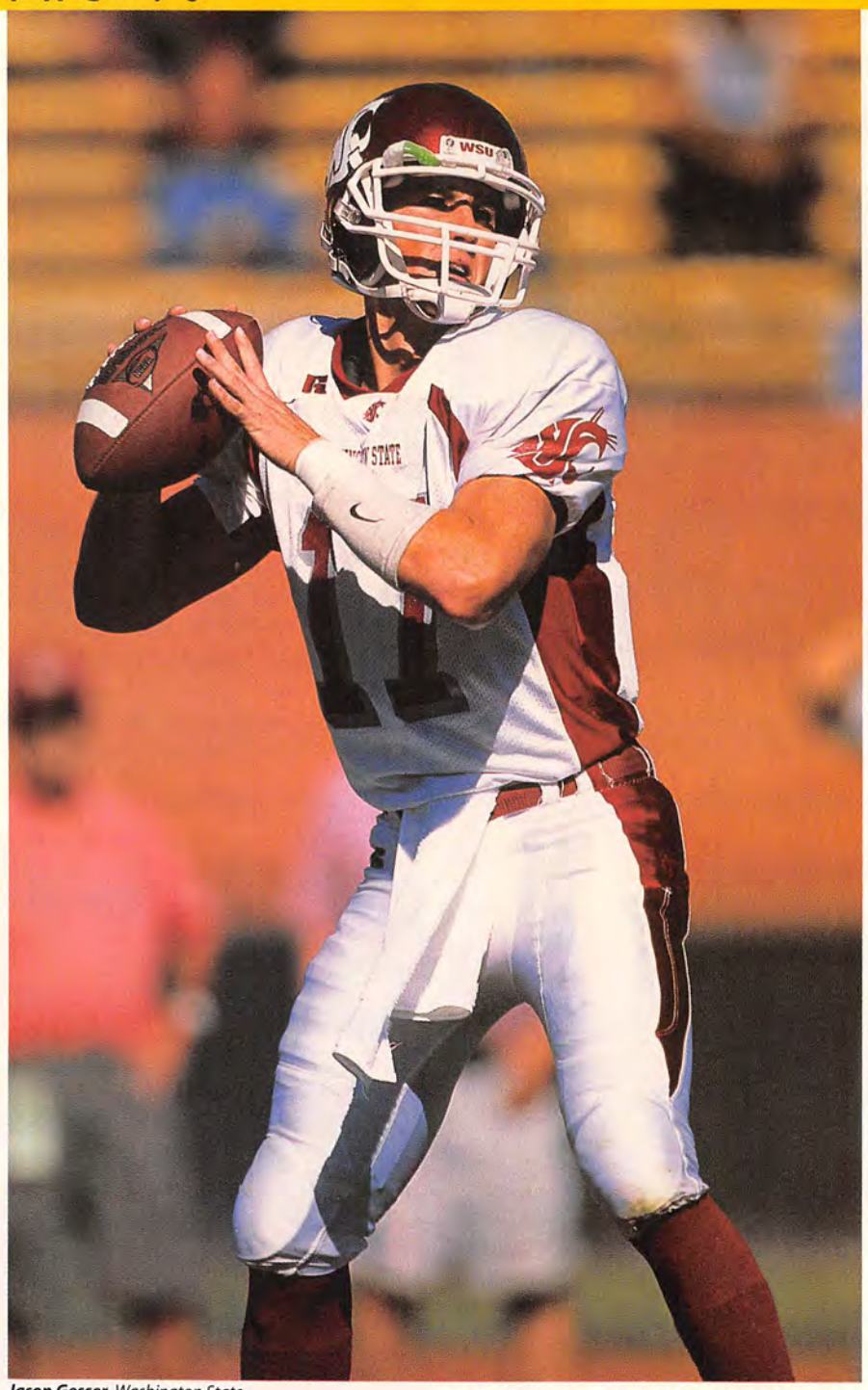
2 Washington

Excellent offense and questionable defense seems to be the story for the Huskies following an 8-4 season and a tie for second in the Pac-10 with Washington State and Stanford at 6-2. But even with some defensive uncertainties, coach Rick Neuheisel's team definitely looks like one of the league favorites, and

Cody Pickett, Washington



LEFT TO RIGHT: JOHN WILLIAMSON, KEVIN REECE



Jason Gesser, *Washington State*

should get better throughout the season as players like quarterback Cody Pickett and wide receiver Reggie Williams continue to improve.

True sophomore Williams already is a devastating combination of size (6-4) and speed. He figures to be the main target for Pickett, who threw for 2,403 yards and 10 TDs last season, but also back is Paul Arnold (43 catches for 649 yards). The tailback position isn't as deep as last year, but Rich Alexis, Braxton Cleman and Chris Singleton all have potential, and California freshman Kenny James might help right away. Zack Tuiasosopo, who's been shifted from linebacker, may be the fullback.

The offensive line is deep and experienced, with four starters returning—tackles Khalif Barnes and Todd Bachert and guards Nick Newton and Elliott Zajac. There's also one of the nation's top-rated offensive line prospects, freshman Nathan Rhodes. Dan Dicks may replace Kyle Benn at center, with Kevin Ware or Joe Toledo taking over for tight end Jerramy Stevens, who left early for the NFL.

There were key losses everywhere from a defense that gave up 65 points to Miami and folded late against Texas in the Holiday Bowl. The departures include team leader Larry Tripplett and Marcus Roberson up front and Omare Lowe in the secondary. But Neuheisel does have five starters back in tackle Jerome Stevens, linebackers Kai Ellis and Ben Mahdavi, cornerback Chris Massey and strong safety Greg Carothers.

The secondary is the major concern, with Carothers and Roc Alexander coming off shoulder injuries. Derrick Johnson, Jimmy Newell, Evan Benjamin and Eric Shyne could provide help. Up front, Manase Hopoi, Terry Johnson, Josh Miller and Jerome Stevens will contend. Tim Galloway, Jafar Williams, Marquis Cooper, Joseph Lobendahn and Tyler Krambrink will fight for the linebacker spots.

There's no change in the kicking game, with punter Derek McLaughlin and placekicker John Anderson returning.

3 Washington State

Coach Mike Price's Cougars surprised people—again—by finishing 10-2, beating Purdue in the Sun Bowl and winding up No. 13 in the rankings. And if they can patch up some holes in a defense that was only 53rd in the country and find the right running back, they should contend for a Pac-10 championship and maybe national honors.

The biggest hole in the defense was left by All-America free safety Lamont Thompson, the school's all-time interception leader. But two other key players, linebacker Raonall Smith and strong safety Billy Newman, have also departed.

Price can still call on five returning starters—tackles Rien Long and Tai Tupai, end Fred Shavies and corners Marcus Trufant and Jason David. Trufant, who missed five games because of a broken thumb, and Long are strong honors candidates. Backup D.D. Acholonu, who led the conference with 14 sacks, is likely to take over at an end spot, with frequent starter Al Genatone, Ira Davis, Pat Bennett and JC transfer Kevin Sperry competing at linebacker. Erik Coleman, Virgil Williams and freshman Aaron Joseph are the top hopefuls at the safety spots.

The offense will revolve around senior quarterback Jason Gesser, likely the league's best coming off a season in which he led the conference with 3,010 passing yards and 26 TDs. He'll be minus his favorite receiver, Nakoa McElrath, who set a school record with 72 receptions for 1,163 yards. But he still has 6-6 senior Mike Bush (46 catches for 969 yards), Jerome Riley (36 for 630) and Collin Henderson.

Three top JC running backs—Jermaine Green, Lionel Arnold and Jonathan Smith—and

ICON SPORTS MEDIA

Kareem Kelly, *Southern Cal*

ROBERT LEITER

backup John Tippins will bid to replace valuable Dave Minnich, who rushed for 815 yards last season. And all but one starter is back on a good offensive line that is headed by guard Derrick Roche, an All-America candidate, and tackle Josh Parrish, and also includes Tyler Hunt and Calvin Armstrong.

All-Pac-10 first-team kicker Drew Dunning, who connected on 18 of 22 field goal attempts, returns, but Price is looking for a new punter to replace Alan Cox. Redshirt Kyle Basler is the top candidate.

4 Southern Cal

Pete Carroll made some progress in his first season as Trojans' coach. His squad started 1-4 but won five of its last six games, including a 27-0 victory over UCLA, to finish fifth in the conference at 5-3. That momentum could be crucial, particularly with an inconsistent offense that returns eight starters.

The key may be how much help the running backs and a veteran line can give senior quarterback Carson Palmer, who threw for 2,717 yards and 13 TDs but was often under duress, and had a dozen interceptions.

Two-year starter Sultan McCullough, a thousand-yard rusher in 2000 who was sidelined after just six games last season because of an abdominal strain, returns at tailback, along with Malaefou MacKenzie, who missed all of the 2001 campaign after a knee injury. Their full-time presence will allow Sunny Byrd to shift back to fullback.

Palmer's favorite targets—wide receivers Kareem Kelly, who had 49 catches, and Keary Colbert—return, as does nearly the entire starting offensive line, including tackles Jacob Rogers and Eric Torres, guard Zach Wilson and center Lenny Vandermade. Norm Katnik will likely be at the other guard spot, while junior Alex Holmes will be the new tight end.

Only five starters return to the defense, which was the Trojans' strength last season, but one of them is All-America senior safety Troy Polamalu, a leading candidate for the Thorpe Award after making 118 tackles (13 for losses) and bringing back two of his three interceptions for TDs. "He's one of the best players I've ever coached," Carroll says.

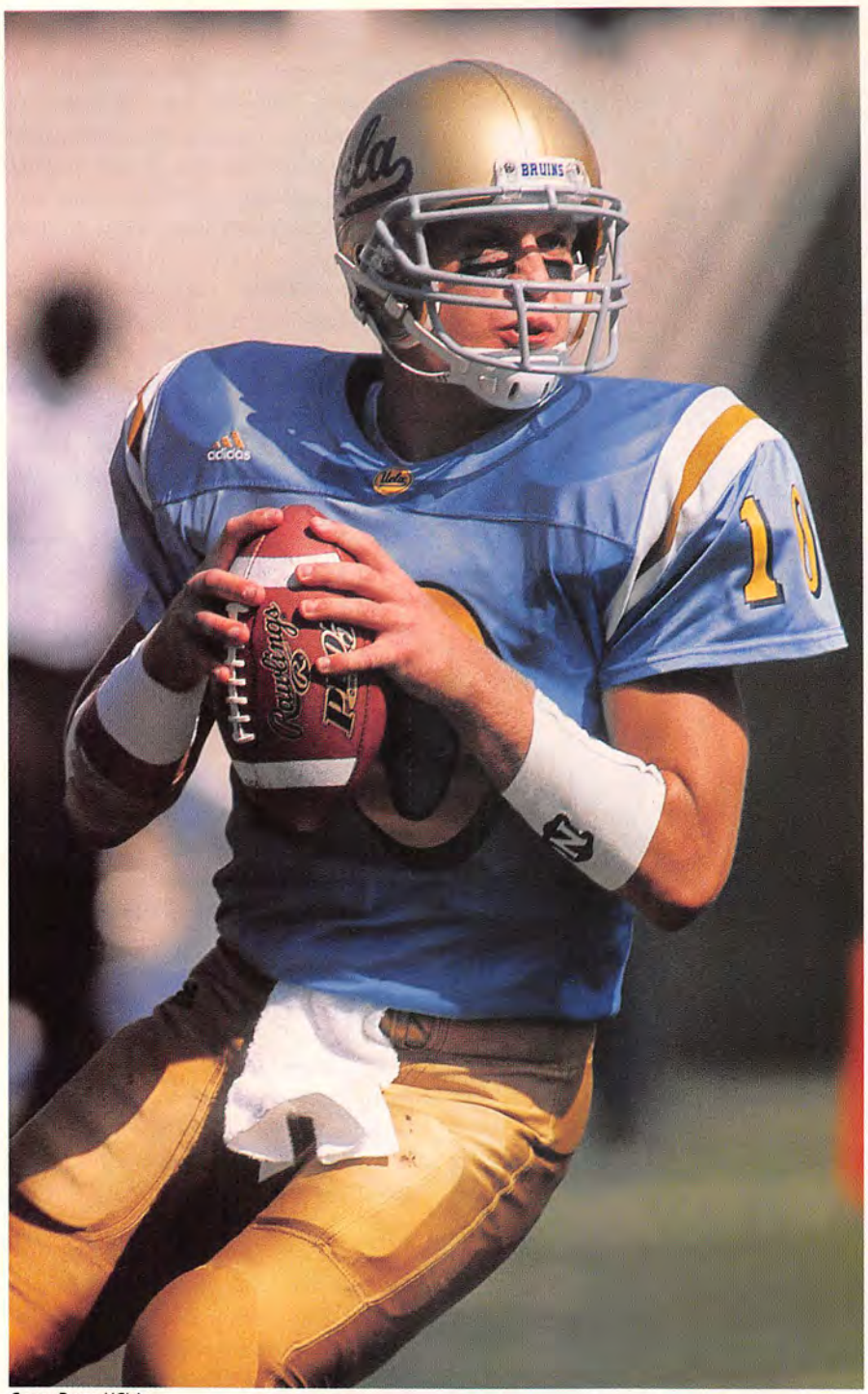
Also returning are linemen Shaun Cody and Kenechi Udeze and linebackers Mike Pollard and Matt Grootegoed. Others with a good chance to step in are tackle Bernard Riley, linebackers Aaron Graham and Chris Prosser and safety DeShaun Hill. Freshman lineman Manuel Wright may figure in. The primary concern is finding cornerbacks to replace Antuan Simmons, Kris Richard and Chris Cash. Carroll will focus first on Darrell Rideaux, Kevin Arbet and converted wide receiver Marcell Almond.

Productive placekicker David Davis is back, but a replacement is needed for punter Mike MacGillivray.

5 UCLA

The Bruins sailed along through the first month and a half of the 2001 season, winning their first six games and rising as high as fourth in the AP poll and third in the BCS ratings. Then, however, they dropped four in a row and finished the season 7-4 and 4-4 and in sixth place in the Pac-10.

Now, who knows? Coach Bob Toledo lost half his starting team, including 1,100-yard rusher DeShaun Foster, wide receiver Brian Poli-Dixon, defensive lineman Kenyon Coleman, first-team All-America linebacker Robert Thomas and safety Marques Anderson. But Toledo has plenty of young talent available, bolstered by perhaps the best recruiting class in the conference.



Corey Paus, *UCLA*

The offensive nucleus will center around three-year starting quarterback Cory Paus, who was hampered by a thumb injury and had a very inconsistent season (1,740 yards passing, eight TDs, eight interceptions). He'll throw to wide receivers Tab Perry, who led the team with 416 receiving yards, and Craig Bragg (29 receptions). Tackles Bryce Bohlander and Mike Saffer, an All-America candidate, and guards Eyoseph Efseaff, Steve Vieira and Shane Lehmann and tight end Mike Seidman give the offensive line experience. Akil Harris and redshirt sophomore Manuel White are the top hopefuls to replace Foster.

The kicking game should be excellent, with All-America candidate Nate Fikse (43-yard average) as the punter and Chris Griffith as the placekicker.

If Paus falters in directing the attack, Toledo can turn to redshirt freshman John Sciarra Jr., son of former Bruin QB John Sciarra, who led UCLA to a 1976 Rose Bowl win, or freshmen Matt Moore and Drew Olson.

Five defensive starters return, headed by two-time all-conference first-team cornerback Ricky Manning. End Dave Ball and tackle Rodney Leisle also are back, along with outside linebacker Brandon Chillar and first-team Freshman All-America Matt Ware, who will play either corner or safety. But there looks to be room for some newcomers in this unit. Juco transfer tackle Ryan Boschetti comes in highly regarded, as do freshman end Kevin Harbour, linebackers Xavier Burgess and Justin London and cornerbacks Eric McNeal and Jarrad Page.

The schedule is no bargain. The Bruins play seven opponents that were in bowl games last season.

6 Stanford

The Cardinal shouldn't have any trouble scoring points this season. The question is whether they'll be able to keep the opposition from scoring them. New coach Buddy Teevens inherited a lot of offensive firepower from the departed Tyrone Willingham, whose 2001 squad finished 9-3 and 6-2 and tied for second in the Pac-10 and was ranked No. 16 in the final AP poll. But nine starters are gone from the defense, including All-America free safety Tank Williams and all-conference linebacker Coy Wire.

Ex-Florida assistant Teevens will install a wide-open, "Fun-and-Gun" attack, with promising junior quarterback Chris Lewis likely in charge, taking over from the departed Randy Fasani. Senior Kerry Carter, who shared time with Brian Allen last season, will be the No. 1 running back and three-year starter Casey Moore the fullback.

The entire receiving corps returns, led by Luke Powell (40 catches for 790 yards), conference Co-Freshman of the Year Teyo Johnson (38 for 565) and Ryan Wells, with veteran Brett Pierce at tight end. All-America Eric Heitmann and Zack Quaccia are gone from the offensive line, but a trio of starters—tackles Kwame Harris, a potential NFL star, and Kirk Chambers and guard Greg Schindler—return, along with key reserves Paul Weinacht and Tom Kolich.

Freshman Michael Sgroi is expected to take over for three-year placekicker Mike Biselli, with Eric Johnson back as the punter.

An inexperienced defense will look to a trio of veteran linemen—Matt Leonard, Trey Freeman and Craig Albrecht—and senior free safety Colin Branch to carry the early load in the secondary. But Teevens will have to replace the entire linebacking unit and all four starters in the secondary. The primary contenders at linebacker are Brian Gaffney, Jake Covault, Jared Newberry and David Bergeron, with freshman

Kerry Carter, Stanford

Michael Craven due for a long look. In the secondary, where Williams, Simba Hodari, Ruben Carter and Ryan Fernandez are all gone, sophomores Stanley Wilson, Leigh Torrence and O.J. Atogwe will help Branch, a part-time starter last season. Freshmen Calvin Armstrong and Kevin Schimmelmann could also figure in.

7 Oregon State

The Beavers took the biggest swan dive in the conference last season, falling from a co-title and a bowl game in 2000 to also-ran status at 5-6 overall and 3-5 and seventh in the Pac-10. Coach Dennis Erickson now is faced with trying to put the winning pieces back together.

Defensively, things look fairly good. Offensively, it's harder to tell, because Erickson is looking for a new quarterback and loses star running back Ken Simonton, plus his backup, Patrick McCall.

Touted sophomore Derek Anderson, who's 6-foot-6, or 6-5 junior Shayne House, who is a question mark because he has had shoulder problems the last two seasons, should replace valuable quarterback Jonathan Smith. Sophomores Steven Jackson and Dwight Wright will move in at tailback. Erickson thinks Jackson compares favorably with Simonton,

The receivers, led by James Newson (57 catches for 968 yards and five TDs) and Seth Trimmer at the wideouts, Cole Clasen in the slot and Tim Euhus at tight end, should be good. Three starters are back on the offensive line—tackle Lee Davis and guards Mike Kuykendall and Kanan Sanchez. Sophomore Matt Brock likely will take over for Chris Gibson at center, with Doug Nienhuis or Cal State Northridge

***Dennis Weathersby,** Oregon State*

Clarence Farmer, *Arizona*

transfer Isaac Aronson at the other tackle. Transfers Brent Bridges and Brandon Lockheart could have an impact up front, too.

Erickson thinks his strength on defense is at tackle, where starters Eric Manning and Dwan Edwards return, and there's depth behind them. Linebackers Richard Seigler (93 tackles) and Nick Barnett (73) both have played extensively, and cornerbacks Dennis Weathersby and Terrell Roberts probably are as good as anyone in the Pac-10. Weathersby, who was all-conference and a *Sporting News* All-America last season, has broken up 44 passes in three years, tying a school record. Other defensive starters returning are end Noah Happe and free safety Mitch Meeuwsen. Transfers Lawrence Turner and Brandon Catenese will vie at the other safety.

Both placekicker Ryan Cesca and punter Carl Tobey return, but they may be challenged to hold their spots by Kirk Yliniemi and Ryan Cozzetto.

8 Arizona

There were a number of fits and starts last season as the Wildcats tried to master the system of new coach John Mackovic, and the result was a 5-6 overall mark and just 2-6 in the conference, good for a lackluster eighth-place finish.

If major improvement is in store, the Arizona offense will have to do something about the 17 interceptions and 15 lost fumbles that skill-position players committed, frequently putting the defense in a hole.

That defense, whose long-standing reputation took a hit in 2001, will be minus five starters, but returns a trio of excellent players in senior linebacker Lance Briggs, a first-team All-Pac-10 pick who has 206 tackles in two seasons; junior cornerback Michael Jolivette, who has 10 career interceptions and broke up 20 passes last year, a school single-season record; and senior tackle Young Thompson.

The biggest questions are in the line, where Thompson is the only returning starter. Transfers Andre Torrey and Carl Tuitavuki both will get early looks. The linebacking looks solid, with Ray Wells, Joe Siofele and Kirk Johnson joining Briggs. Mackovic is looking for more production out of a secondary that finished No. 99 in pass defense in Division I-A. One other starter, free safety Jarvie Worcester, will join Jolivette, but the other spots appear wide-open.

Offensively, the Wildcats have a veteran quarterback, some proven skill at running back and wide receiver, a stable of tight ends and an experienced line.

Quarterback Jason Johnson completed 57 percent of his passes and threw for 2,347 yards and 19 TDs in 2001, but needs to cut down on

Terrell Suggs, *Arizona State*

LEFT TO RIGHT: ICON SPORTS MEDIA, NORM HALL, SPORTS IMAGES

his interceptions. First-team all-conference Clarence Farmer is one of the nation's top running backs coming off a season in which he rushed for 1,229 yards. Senior Bobby Wade (62 catches for 882 yards) and junior Andrae Thurman are proven receivers. The line will include four returning starters—Maoka Freitas, Darren Safranek, Keoki Fraser and Reggie Sampay—with a tight end trio of James Hugo, Justin Levasseur and Steve Fleming.

Returning placekicker Sean Keel finished strongly, but punter Ramey Peru needs to be more consistent after averaging just 34.7 yards per attempt last season.

9 Arizona State

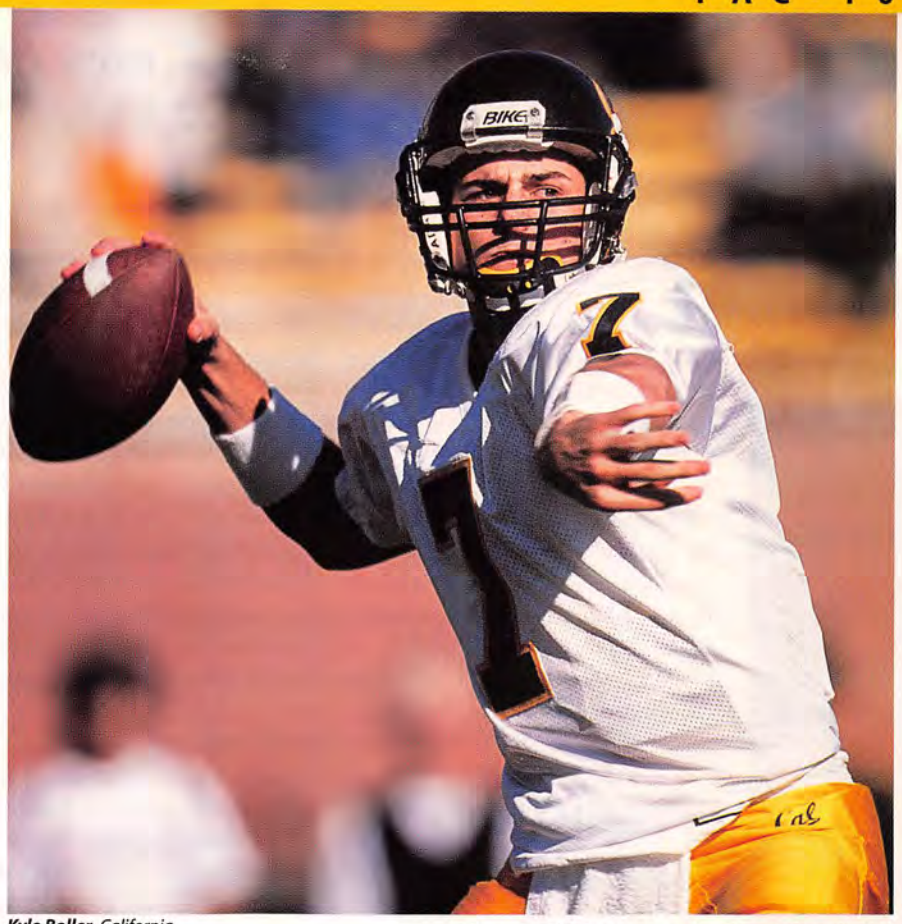
Dirk Koetter got off to a rough start in his first season as the Sun Devils' coach (4-7 overall, 1-7 and ninth in the Pac-10), but managed to attract a national Top 25 recruiting class. So, better things may be in store, particularly if Koetter can find the right quarterback among a new crop that includes transfer Andy Goodenough, the nation's top-ranked junior college QB last season, plus 2001 backup Andrew Walter and redshirt freshman Chad Christensen.

Whoever wins the quarterback spot will have the support of a top fullback, 257-pound junior Mike Karney, and a small but productive wide receiver, 5-9 junior Shaun McDonald (47 catches for 1,104 yards). But thousand-yard rusher Delvon Flowers and Tom Pace are gone, so junior Mike Williams (702 yards) is the only returning tailback with experience. Redshirts Hakim Hill and Cornell Canidate and freshmen Randy Hill and Loren Wade could be in the rushing mix. Overall, the offensive talent is very green. Four starters are gone from the line, leaving only junior Regis Crawford, who will shift from guard to tackle. Juco transfer Tim Fa'aita looks like an important addition at tackle.

The defense struggled last season after coordinator Brent Guy installed a 4-2-5 set, It finished eighth in the Pac-10 by yielding just short of 400 yards a game, but eight starters return to the unit, and Koetter's recruiting was heavily skewed toward defenders.

The defense's anchor will be junior end Terrell Suggs, an All-America candidate after tallying 18 tackles for loss and 10 sacks in 2001. Also returning are end Brian Montesanto, linebackers Mason Unck and Solomon Bates, cornerbacks R.J. Oliver and Lamar Baker and Freshman All-America Jason Shivers (team-leading 89 tackles) and Alfred Williams at safeties. Others to watch are touted transfers Shane Jones and Matt Mason up front, Ishmael Thrower at linebacker and Brett Hudson at safety.

Mike Barth (26-for-39 on field goals in his ASU career) returns, but Koetter will have to find a new punter after the departure of Nick Murphy. The top candidates are Brian Biang and transfer Tim Parker.



Kyle Boller, *California*

10 California

Nowhere to go but up.

That's true, both figuratively and literally, for new coach Jeff Tedford, who will get a chance to see how the Pac-10's other half lives after serving as offensive coordinator for the high-flying Oregon Ducks the last four seasons. Tedford takes over a Tom Holmoe-coached Bears team that was just 1-10 last year and finished dead last in the league at 0-8.

"Our goal is to achieve a winning season this year, but that's frequently proven easier to say than to do in Berkeley," Tedford says.

Offensively, much will depend on what Tedford can wrest out of senior quarterback Kyle Boller, who has produced an 8-25 record in three seasons. Boller threw for 1,751 yards, 12 TDs and 10 interceptions in 2001, but has plenty of room for improvement. Multitalented fullback Marcus Fields is gone, but Joe Igber (1,994 career rushing yards), who is back from a clavicle injury, and Terrell Williams could be a potent tailback tandem, with freshman Marcus O'Keith a possible wild card. Senior LaShaun Ward (416 receiving yards) leads a pass-catching corps that will include Chase Lyman, Burl Toler III and Geoff McArthur, and maybe highly sought juco tight end Brandon Hall.

The line will be led by guard Scott Tercero and tackle Mark Wilson. A couple of other veterans, Ryan Jones and Nolan Bluntzer, are available, but Tedford will have to replace Brandon Ludwig and Langston Walker.

The kicking game should be strong, with punter Tyler Fredrickson and placekicker Mark Jensen returning.

The still-building defense, which gave up just short of 40 points a game and forced only 18 turnovers last season, will be led by end Tully Banta-Cain, who had a team-best eight sacks and 17 tackles for loss, and free safety Nnamdi Asomugha (three interceptions, 54 tackles). Other potential starters include tackle Daniel Nwangwu, linebackers John Klotsche (team-high 71 tackles) and Matt Nixon and cornerbacks Atari Callen and James Bethea. Juco All-America Monte Parson could be a big help up front, as could a group of five speedy freshman defensive backs. ■

ICON SPORTS MEDIA

Without Spurrier, SEC may go to the Vols and Dawgs.

BY TOMMY HICKS
MOBILE REGISTER

The SEC might just as well stand for "Seems Everything Changes" as well as Southeastern Conference. Commissioner Roy Kramer, considered by many the most powerful man in collegiate athletics, is retiring. Steve Spurrier, considered by many the most powerful coach in collegiate athletics, has left Florida for the challenge of the NFL. LSU enters the season as the defending league champion, becoming the first SEC school not named Alabama, Florida or Tennessee to win the SEC title game.

Ron Zook is now in charge in Gainesville and Bobby Johnson has taken over at Vanderbilt. Tommy Tuberville is still in Auburn but his coordinators are brand-new. John Thompson is still an SEC defensive coordinator, but he's changed his address, from Arkansas to Florida. Rex Grossman stayed at Florida, but Brock Berlin headed for Miami.

Even the division races are featuring some changes. In the East, where Florida and Tennessee have won every title since the league went to divisional play in 1992, the two schools are again picked as contenders, but Georgia has elevated itself to contender status along with South Carolina. And the division crown won't necessarily have to travel through Gainesville, as in so many seasons past.

Last season, Mississippi State was considered the team on the move in the West Division, and indeed it was—only backward, finishing a surprising last. LSU took over the crown it seemed no team wanted, although several had a shot at it toward the end of the season.

One thing remains the same: The West, after LSU (and perhaps including LSU), is a dead toss-up. Anything can happen.

Predictions

East Division

1. **Tennessee**
2. **Georgia**
3. **Florida**
4. **South Carolina**
5. **Vanderbilt**
6. **Kentucky**

West Division

1. **LSU**
2. **Auburn**
3. **Ole Miss**
4. **Alabama**
5. **Arkansas**
6. **Mississippi State**

Games to watch

Florida at Tennessee, September 21
This has become an East Division title game.

LSU at Auburn, October 26
Always a close game, this one could have strong title implications in the West.

Georgia at Florida, November 2
The "World's Biggest Cocktail Party" could be a "Dawg Day Afternoon."

All-SEC Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Rex Grossman**, junior, Florida	DL—**Jarret Johnson**, senior, Alabama
RB—**LaBrandon Toefield**, junior, LSU	DL—**Chad Lavalais**, junior, LSU
RB—**Carnell Williams**, sophomore, Auburn	DL—**Kenny King**, senior, Alabama
WR—**Kelley Washington**, sophomore, Tennessee	LB—**Bradie James**, senior, LSU
WR—**Michael Clayton**, sophomore, LSU	LB—**Dontarrious Thomas**, Auburn
TE—**Randy McMichael**, senior, Georgia	LB—**Eddie Strong**, senior, Ole Miss
OL—**Ben Claxton**, senior, Ole Miss	LB—**Mario Haggan**, senior, Mississippi State
OL—**Jon Stinchcomb**, senior, Georgia	DB—**Ken Hamlin**, junior, Arkansas
OL—**Doug Buckles**, sophomore, Ole Miss	DB—**Todd Johnson**, senior, Florida
OL—**Michael Munoz**, sophomore, Tennessee	DB—**Damien James**, senior, LSU
OL—**Travelle Wharton**, junior, South Carolina	DB—**Josh Morgan**, senior, Mississippi State
PK—**Damon Duval**, senior, Auburn	P—**Glenn Pakulak**, senior, Kentucky

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Jason Armstead**, Ole Miss
Best hands: **Michael Clayton**, WR, LSU
Best passing QB: **Rex Grossman**, Florida
Best option QB: **Matt Jones**, Arkansas
Most elusive RB: **LaBrandon Toefield**, LSU
Best instincts: **Ken Hamlin**, S, Arkansas
Best athlete: **Kelley Washington**, WR, Tennessee
Best under pressure: **Rex Grossman**, QB, Florida
Top NFL prospect: **Jon Stinchcomb**, OT, Georgia
Top impact freshman: **Reshard Dudley**, RB, Georgia
Hardest hitter: **Ken Hamlin**, S, Arkansas
Biggest underachiever: **Cedric Cobbs**, RB, Arkansas

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Nick Saban**, LSU
Best recruiter: **Phillip Fulmer**, Tennessee
Coach on the spot: **Ron Zook**, Florida

Don't be surprised if...

. . . the NCAA is found investigating another SEC school this year.

One man's opinion

"This may have been the dream job for Ron Zook, but with that schedule (Miami, at Florida State, at Tennessee, vs. Georgia) it could become a nightmare real quick."
—an SEC assistant coach

Rating the recruits

1. Tennessee
Continuing a trend of solid recruiting; look for RB Gerald Riggs, OL Rob Smith to gain attention.

2. Georgia
Mark Richt is adding his touch to a school that has always done well; RB Reshard Dudley is a good one.

3. Auburn
Signing QB Brandon Cox and WR Ben Obomanu helped make this a strong class for the Tigers.

4. LSU
Saban continues to add talent, including QB Lester Ricard and RB Justin Vincent.

5. South Carolina
Success and Lou Holtz's influence have given the Gamecocks some much-needed strength.

6. Florida
The uncertainty after Steve Spurrier's departure may have hurt a bit, but the Gators live in a fertile recruiting area.

7. Mississippi State
Claiming RB Jerious Norwood and LB Marvin Byrdsong helped fill the Bulldogs' needs.

8. Arkansas
The Razorbacks addressed some needs with this class and came away with a couple of gems in the process.

9. Ole Miss
Juco transfer Ronald McClendon leads a good class of signees, including some needed defensive help.

10. Alabama
NCAA sanctions didn't help the Tide's efforts.

11. Kentucky
NCAA sanctions, coupled with a difficult season, made it difficult to attract a strong class.

12. Vanderbilt
Entrance standards usually dictate this ranking.

East Division

1 Tennessee

It doesn't take a lot of investigation to figure out why the Vols are picked to win the East Division crown, nor why they are favored to take the SEC championship this season. There's an established quarterback, talented wide receivers, a good tight end, plenty of options at running back and a line to protect them all.

And that's just on offense. On defense, there's speed and quickness and talent

Consider that Travis Stephens, Fred Weary, Reggie Coleman, Donte' Stallworth, Will Bartholomew, John Henderson, Will Overstreet, Andre Lott and Dominique Stevenson have all departed, and the Vols are still the easy pick as the best in the league.

Casey Clausen is back and has proven himself as the Vols' quarterback, having matured and grown into his role as the leader of the offense. This is his team now. He'll have a few choices at running back among sophomores Jabari Davis, Cedric Houston and Derrick Tinsley and freshman Keldrick Williams. The target of Clausen's passes will be Kelley Washington, who developed into one of the league's top receivers a year ago, as well as Troy Fleming, Tony Brown, Leonard Scott and Montrell Jones. At tight end, Jason Witten has become a popular and effective target.

Casey Clausen, *Tennessee*

BRUCE SCHWARTZMAN

The line is solid and experienced, aided by the fact that a couple of players who were injured last year—Michael Munoz and Jason Respert—are back this season. Munoz joins the competition with Sean Young at left tackle, while Respert and Victor McClure have designs on left guard. Chavis Smith returns at right guard with Anthony Herrera. Will Ofenheusle is at right tackle and Scott Wells will be the center.

While Stevenson and others collected a lot of attention last season, it was Eddie Moore who led the Vols in tackles last season. The linebacker is back this season. Constantin Ritzmann and Omari Hand will be the ends and Rashard Moore, Aubrayo Franklin, Demetrin Veal and Edward Kendrick will share time at the tackle spots. The defensive front is the area of most concern because of the talent and experience lost there.

Keyon Whiteside, Robert Peace and Kevin Burnett will see playing time at linebacker, joining Moore. The secondary has Julian Battle back, and he'll move into the starting role at strong safety, with Jabari Greer at right cornerback, Rashad Baker at free safety and senior Willie Miles, who was redshirted last season, at the other cornerback spot.

Alex Walls will handle kickoffs and placekicking, while Dustin Colquitt will be the punter.

Another advantage for Tennessee is its nine games in the state of Tennessee—seven in Knoxville and two in Nashville. The Vols' first road game doesn't come until October 12 when they travel to Georgia. Defending national champ Miami visits Knoxville on November 9.

2 Georgia

The reason Mark Richt was hired at Georgia was to take the Bulldogs back to the top of the SEC, a position they have not visited in quite a few seasons. In his first season he did well, leading the Dawgs to an 8-4 record, but it was only good enough for a third-place tie in the East (5-3). That would have tied for the lead in the West, but Georgia's neighborhood is a bit more upscale.

The Dawgs could move a step closer this year, perhaps even make it to the top. They return several starters from last season, especially

Terrence Edwards, *Georgia*

at the skill positions, and there is developing talent that will add depth to the roster. The schedule will make things tougher—starting against Clemson and South Carolina and ending with Florida, Ole Miss, Auburn and Georgia Tech.

Offense is Richt's forte and he has the talent to make things happen. Sophomore quarterback David Greene will return as the starter, but he is being pushed by redshirt freshman D.J. Shockley, who had some impressive days during the spring, and senior Cory Phillips. At running back, many are hoping Musa Smith's potential will shine through if he can remain healthy. Injuries have hampered his play. Two freshmen could figure in at the position, with highly touted Reshard Dudley and Michael Cooper getting a look. Mike Gilliam and Tony Milton will have a shot, too.

Receiver is where the Dawgs have lots of punch. Terrence Edwards, who is well on his way to owning all of Georgia's career receiving marks, leads the way, along with sophomore Fred Gibson, who had a stellar 2001. Add Damien Gary and Reggie Brown (back following a knee injury) to the group and it's easy to see why opposing secondaries will be kept quite busy. At tight end, Ben Watson provides experience.

Jon Stinchcomb headlines an offensive line that features six seniors in the rotation, all with starting experience. Kevin Breedlove, Ian Knight, Alex Jackson, George Foster and Kareem Marshall add to the strength up front.

Defense dominated spring drills, and there is talent available on that side of the ball. Five starters return, but there are others set for starting spots who possess a lot of game experience. Tony Gilbert, who led the team in tackles last year, is one returning starter at linebacker, as is Boss Bailey. Chris Clemons will be at the other linebacker spot.

Up front, David Pollack, Johnathan Sullivan, Ken Veal and Robert Geathers will likely be the starters. There is also good depth there, thanks to Nic Clemons, Gerald Anderson, Shedrick Wynn and Will Thompson. Newcomer Darrious Swain should also help. In the secondary, three starters were lost. Decory Bryant is back, and he will likely be joined by Sean Jones, Kentrell Curry and Bruce Thornton in starting roles. Placekicker Billy Bennett and punter Jonathan Kilgo are also back.

3 Florida

You'll need a program to keep up with all the changes for the Gators, and that begins with the coaching staff. Steve Spurrier has taken his pass-happy ways to the NFL's Washington Redskins, taking with him the attitude the Gators would try any play at any time from anywhere on the field.

Spurrier isn't the only one who left Gainesville. Several of the Gators' top players from last season have also left for the NFL, including Lito Sheppard, Jabar Gaffney, Reche Caldwell, Mike Pearson, Zac Zedalis, Alex Brown, Andra Davis, Marquand Manuel and Bennie Alexander.

Still, new coach Ron Zook, the former defensive coordinator for the New Orleans Saints, wasn't Florida's first choice to replace Spurrier. Or the second. Or the third. But he is the man in charge in Gainesville now.

He at least still has quarterback Rex Grossman, runner-up for the Heisman Trophy last season, back to direct the offense. He also has lots of talent on the roster, which has become expected at Florida. Yet he also accepts the expectations that come with the job and the increasing competition that exists in the East Division.

Zook hired former Marshall coordinator Ed Zaunbrecher to run the offense, bringing another pass-happy style to town for a quarterback adept at running it, although it will differ from Spurrier's attack. Zook also hired John Thompson away from Arkansas to be defensive

coordinator, and Thompson has added some new twists to the Gators' approach.

As for the players, there's no shortage of talent. Grossman leads an offense that will also have Earnest Graham returning at running back. Ran Carthon could also figure into the mix at the position, as could Willie Green. The Gators will use more one-back sets than under Spurrier.

Wide receiver has always been a strong position for the Gators and, although there were some big losses there, several solid players return. Taylor Jacobs leads the way, along with Carlos Perez, Kelvin Kight, Reggie Vickers and Matt Jackson. It's also possible some newcomers could find some playing time here. Tight end belongs to Aaron Walker, with Ben Troupe also getting some time. The offensive line has David Jorgensen, Max Starks, Shannon Snell, Jonathan Colon and Mo Mitchell. Mike Degory will start at center.

Defensively, Ian Scott anchors the line at nose tackle, with Bobby McCray, Major Parker, Clint Mitchell and Darrell Lee at the ends. Tron LaFavor, Bryan Savelio and Chris Reynolds will play at tackle. At linebacker, Mike Nattiel, Matt Farrior, Marcus Oquendo-Johnson, Dwight Jackson and Byron Hardmon lead the way.

Todd Johnson gives the secondary some experience. He'll be joined by Guss Scott, Daryl Dixon, Cory Bailey, Marquis Westbrook and Johnny Lamar. Jeff Chandler has taken his place-kicking talents to the NFL, and he will be tough to replace.

The Gators' schedule includes a September 7 visit from Miami and a trip to Tennessee two weeks later. They play LSU, Auburn and Georgia in succession later in the year, and close out with games against South Carolina and Florida State.

Rex Grossman, *Florida*

DAVID DUROCHIK SPORTPICS

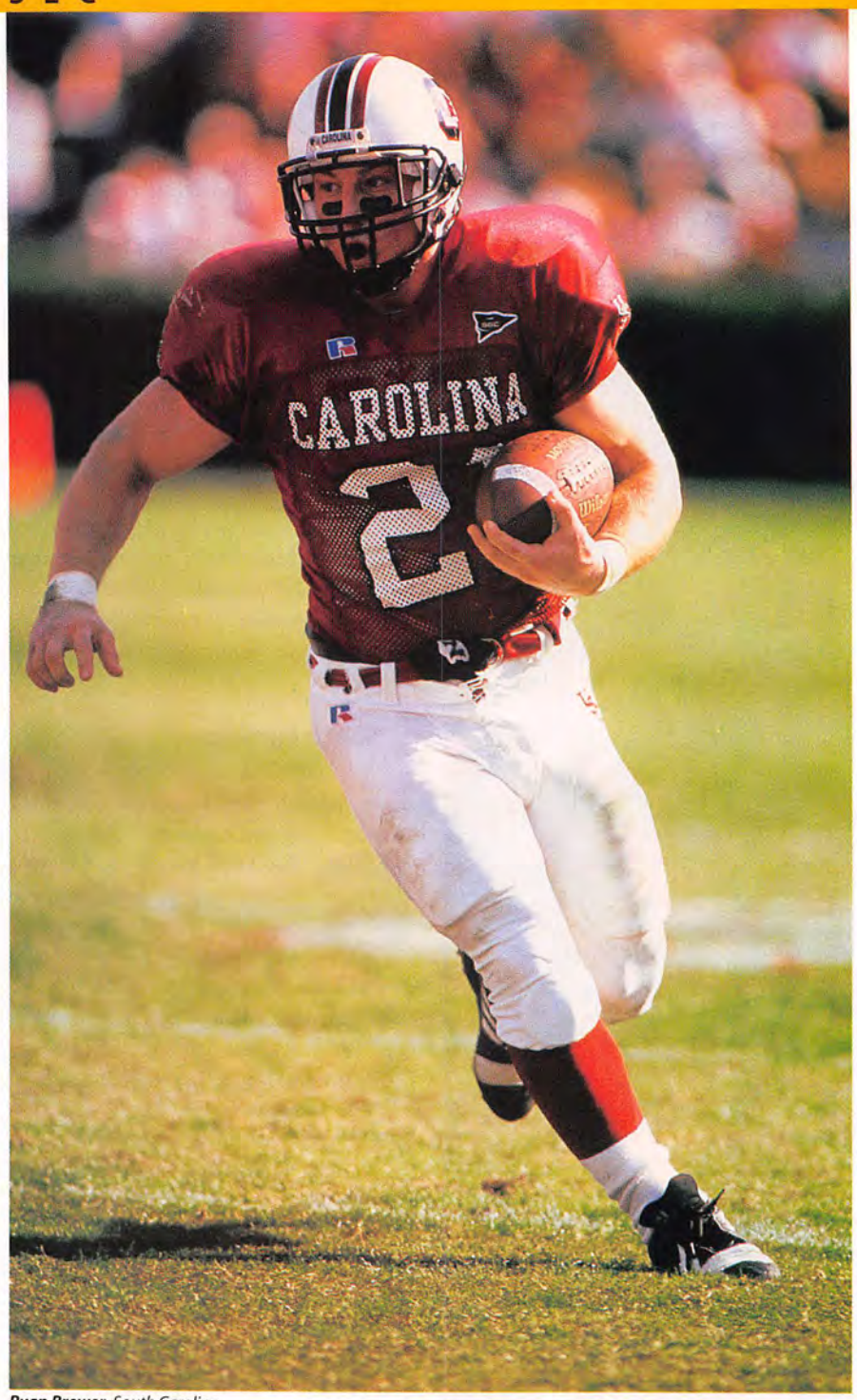
4 South Carolina

The success of the past two seasons has almost erased the memories of the Gamecocks' 21-game losing streak over the 1998 and '99. Lou Holtz has put together some solid recruiting classes and also assembled some confidence in Columbia. As a result, South Carolina has become a player in the SEC, although it must still step up a notch to make a run at the East crown and a place in the SEC Championship Game.

Last season, the Gamecocks were 9-3, including a 6-1 showing at home, and beat Ohio State in the Outback Bowl for the second year in a row. They were ranked No. 13 in both final polls. Unfortunately for the Gamecocks, two East teams (Florida and Tennessee) were ranked above them, as was West resident LSU.

South Carolina takes aim at making the next step this season with a new quarterback. Corey Jenkins, a senior who spent last season backing up Phil Petty, will take over the offense. He enjoyed a good spring and offers a different, more mobile style than Petty. A junior college transfer, Jenkins will be 26 years old in August, having played professional baseball for four seasons before trying football again. Redshirt freshman Dondrial Pinkins will be the backup. Like Jenkins, he can run the option.

Running back Derek Watson, facing legal problems, was kicked off the team. That leaves the job to Andrew Pinnock, who will play tailback and fullback. Ryan Brewer, who is also used as a slot receiver, will also get some time at



Ryan Brewer, *South Carolina*

running back, but he could be slow in recovering from May ankle surgery. If Brewer struggles in coming back, look for redshirt freshman Thez Robinson and true freshman Daccus Turman to provide some help.

The receiving corps is not as consistent as desired, but there is some talent on hand. James Adkisson, a senior who was redshirted last year, had an impressive spring. Others who should help include sophomore Matthew Thomas, sophomore Andrea Gause and junior Chavez Donnings. Tight end finds Hart Turner as the starter, and he'll probably get more catches this season. The Gamecocks plan on using the position with more variety.

The strength of the offense is found in the trenches. Travelle Wharton, Cedric Williams, Shane Hall, Watts Sanderson, C.J. Frye, John Strickland and Na'Shan Goddard will receive the brunt of the work on the offensive line.

The Gamecocks lost some talented defensive players to the NFL, including Kalimba Edwards, Kenny Harney, Sheldon Brown and Willie Offord. Still, there is some talent left. The defensive line is lacking in depth, but sophomores Dennis Quinn and SEC All-Freshman Team member George Gause are good, young ends. Langston Moore is solid at nose tackle.

At linebacker, where the Gamecocks were surprisingly impressive during the spring, Jermaine Lemon, Rod Thomas and Lance Laury lead the way. The secondary has Rashad Faison, the team's leading tackler a year ago, back in a starting spot at strong safety. Dunta Robinson will be at a corner, with Isaac Stackhouse at the other corner spot. Deandre Eiland will be at free safety. Brian Elam and Rachiem Monroe will also get playing time.

The Gamecocks' schedule ends with a tough stretch. Their final five games will be against LSU, Tennessee, Arkansas, Florida and Clemson, with three of those on the road.

5 Vanderbilt

Bobby Johnson led Furman to the national championship game of the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs last season.

This year, he gets to try and lead Vanderbilt to a winning season.

If he is successful, it will be the first time the Commodores have posted a winning record since 1982. And there will be pressure in a hurry. Not only do the Commodores start the season at Georgia Tech, but they follow up with a home game … against Furman.

Johnson takes over a program that has demonstrated improvement from time to time—the Commodores have played stronger teams closely on occasion—but Vandy hasn't been able to put together strong play on both sides of the ball consistently.

Johnson takes over an offense that heads into fall practice without a designated starter at quarterback. Benji Walker and Jay Cutler appear to be the top candidates, with both having good size and different strengths. Also, a new, two-back offense has been put into place, one that will employ an option attack at times. But the biggest problem is inexperience. Walker threw just six passes last year, completing two. Norval McKenzie, Vandy's leading returning rusher, had just 80 yards on 13 carries in 2001. Ian Gaines moves from defensive back to tailback and Ronald Hatcher moves from flanker to tailback. The fullbacks have little experience because the Commodores used a one-back set most of last season. Included in that group is Bara Cola, who was an equipment manager last season. Mike Adam, a linebacker a year ago, is the leading candidate to start at fullback.

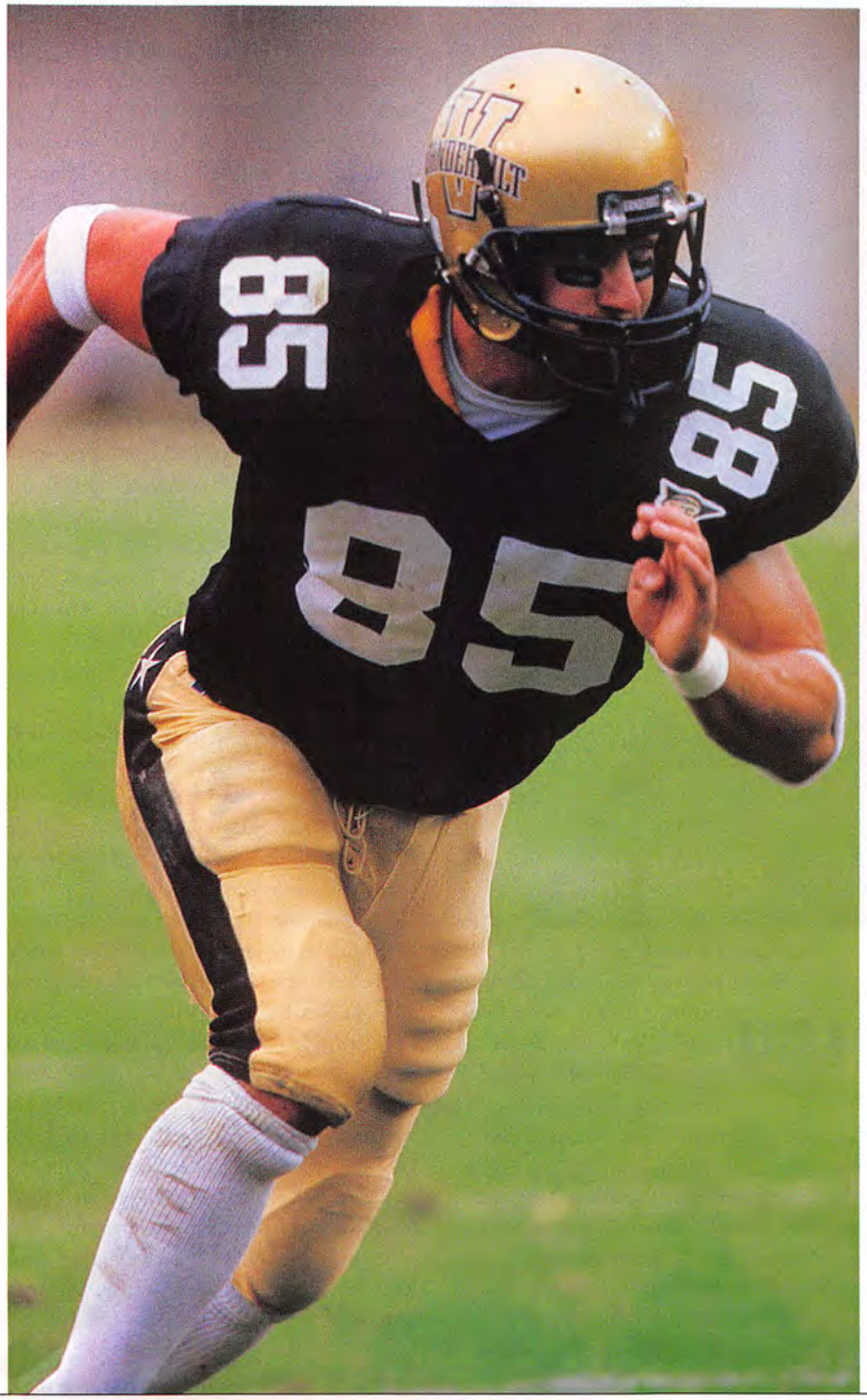
Now the good news. Dan Stricker, one of the league's top receivers, is back. He could break

ROBERT LEITER

the SEC record for career receiving yards and receptions this season. However, he underwent shoulder surgery in the spring, but is expected to be OK for the season. Others to watch at receiver include M.J. Garrett, Brandon Smith, Keith Williams and Chris Young. Two-year starter Tom Simone is back at tight end. Four starters return to the offensive line —Jamie Byrum, Jim May, Brian Kovolisky and Justin Geisinger. Also expected to help there are Kenan Arkan, Jordan Pettit and Ryan King.

The defense is switching from a 3-4 alignment to a 4-3 setup. Brett Beard leads the group up front, with help expected from Chuck Losey, Robert Dinwiddie, Trey Holloway, Ryan Nungesser and Matt Clay, as well as redshirt freshman Jovan Haye. At linebacker, Pat Brunner, Hunter Hillenmeyer, Eric Bynum, Brandon Walthour and Moses Osemwegie are ready to step forward. The secondary features Rushen Jones, Justin Giboney and Aaron McWhorter as returning starters, with Jonathan Shaub, Dominique Morris and Lorenzo Parker helping out.

Dan Stricker, *Vanderbilt*



STEVE BEYER

6 Kentucky

Last season was difficult for the Wildcats. Not only did they finish with a 2-9 record that included a string of six consecutive losses, but they also played under the shadow of NCAA investigations that later led to serious sanctions against the program. As such, there are a lot of reasons to try and forget the 2001 season.

Guy Morriss heads into his second season directing the Kentucky program with several starters returning, not the least of whom are quarterback Jared Lorenzen and wide receiver Derek Abney. Toward the end of last season, the Wildcats' offense improved. Lorenzen, who was the starting quarterback to begin the year, lost the job to Shane Boyd, only to win it back again. In their final five games, the 'Cats led the SEC in passing offense and were third in total offense—but they were 1-4 in those games.

Lorenzen is back in charge, with Boyd as his backup. Tommy Cook, Ernest Simms, Aaron Boone, Gerad Parker, DeMarcus Wood and Brian Pickard will compete to catch any of the passes that don't go in Abney's direction. Chase Harp will start at tight end, with help from Jeremiah Drobney. In the backfield, Artose Pinner is the leading returning rusher, having collected 441 yards on 100 carries last year and scoring four touchdowns. Alexis Bwenge is his backup.

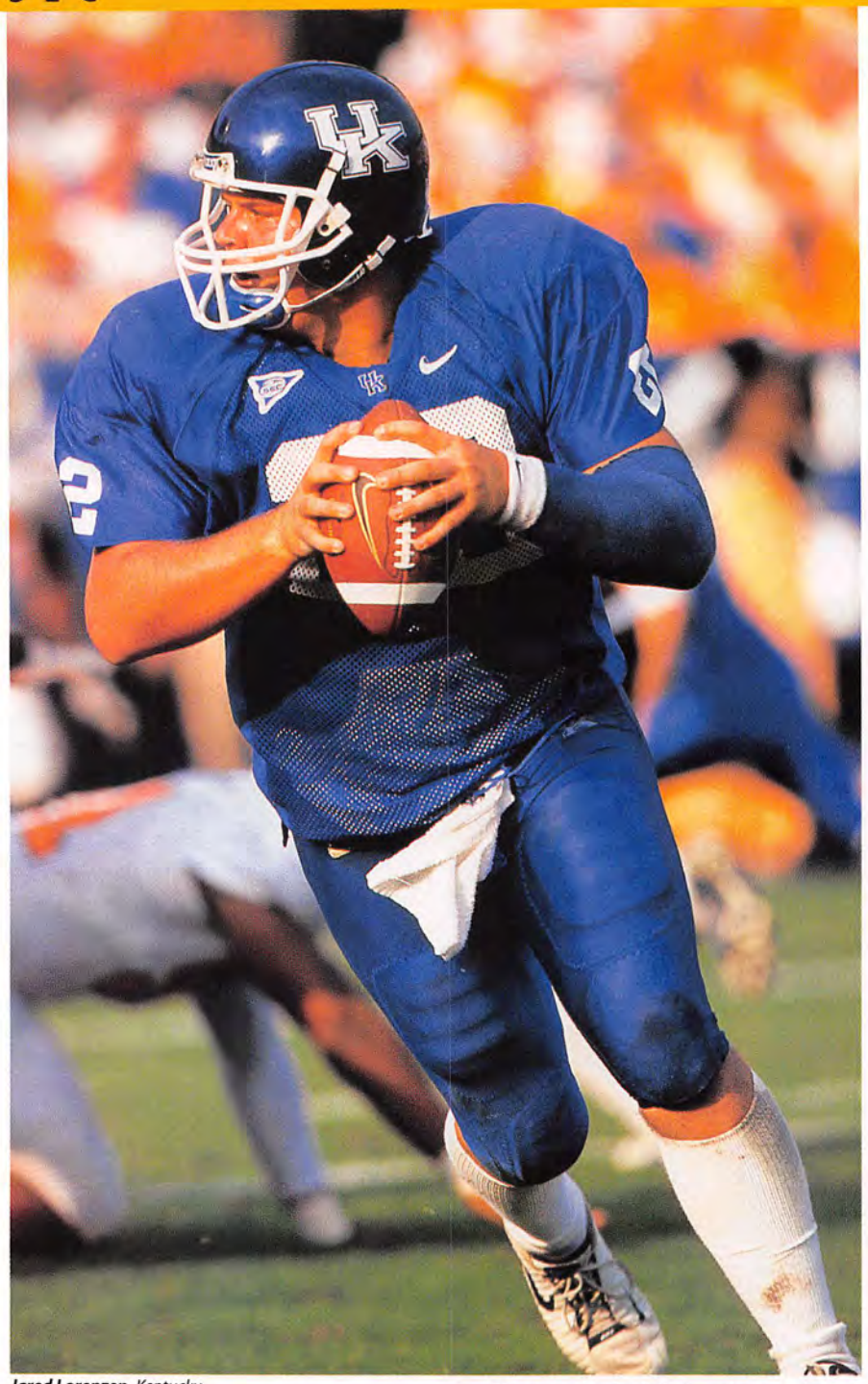
The offensive line is an improving one. Matt Huff and Antonio Hall will be the tackles, with Jason Rollins and Keith Chatelain the guards and Nick Seitze at center. Others who will receive playing time include Sylvester Miller, Jeremy Darveau, Daniel Burnett and Andy Stivers.

Only four starters are back on defense—tackle Dewayne Robertson, safety David Johnson and cornerbacks Derrick Tatum and Leonard Burress. Up front, Robertson is aided by Jeremy Caudill, Ellery Moore, Otis Grigsby and Vincent Burns. The loss of sack-master Dennis Johnson to the NFL will be difficult to overcome. At linebacker, Ronnie Riley and Morris Lane will be the starters, with Justin Haydock and Dustin Williams also figuring into the mix.

The secondary provides the most experience. Aside from Burress, Tatum and Johnson, the 'Cats have some solid players there in Adetayo Agboke, Earven Flowers, Antoine Huffman, Claude Sagaille and Quentus Cumby.

Punter Glenn Pakulak, an All-America candidate, is also back.

Kentucky will open the season with all four of its non-conference games (Louisville,



Jared Lorenzen, *Kentucky*

Texas-El Paso, Indiana and Middle Tennessee). That stretch will be followed by eight straight SEC games, beginning with a trip to Florida and ending with a visit to Tennessee.

West Division

1 LSU

There were a few skeptics when Nick Saban left Michigan State to take the LSU coaching job two seasons ago.

There aren't a lot left these days.

Saban has posted 8-4 and 10-3 records his first two years in Baton Rouge. Last season, LSU began the year 2-2, but won eight of the next nine, including the SEC Championship Game over Tennessee and the Sugar Bowl over Illinois.

In a season that features a West race in which the eventual champion could as accurately be decided by pulling a name out of a hat as with team-by-team analysis, LSU appears to be the team to beat. Much of that has to do with Saban's grip on the program and the infusion of confidence he has given his team.

That confidence will come in handy. Gone are Josh Reed, Rohan Davey, Trev Faulk, Jarvis Green, Robert Royal and Ryan Clark, players who helped LSU back to the top of the West and SEC. And yet there are several returning starters remaining on a team that has enjoyed strong recruiting classes since Saban's arrival.

The biggest question mark is at quarterback, where Davey was the unquestioned leader of the LSU offense. His absence will be felt, and not just because of his strong arm. Sophomore Matt Mauck, who stepped in when Davey was injured in the SEC Championship Game, would appear to be the starter heading into fall workouts, although he is being pushed for the job by sophomore Marcus Randall.

Whoever gets the job, he'll have LaBrandon Toefield to lean on. Toefield rushed for 19 touchdowns and 992 yards last season and, although he injured his knee in the title game, is expected to be ready this fall. Domanick Davis is a capable alternative behind Toefield, and redshirt freshmen Joseph Addai and Ryan Gilbert could also help. Fullback Solomon Lee also returns.

At wide receiver, the loss of Reed will be lessened by the fact that this may be the position that has the deepest pool of talent on the team. Michael Clayton and Jerel Myers will probably soon follow Reed to the NFL, and the return of Reggie Robinson, back after suffering a herniated disc in his neck, is a welcome sight. Look for Bennie Brazell and the elusive Shyrone Carey (used in the slot) to help as well. LSU will try to find ways to get the ball into Carey's hands and let him work.

There is strength on the offensive line. Stephen Peterman is back, as are Rodney Reed and center Ben Wilkerson. Look for help to be provided by Rob Sale, Andrew Whitworth, Kade Comeaux and Brad Smalling. The Tigers will be young at the tight end position.

The defense will be led by new coordinator Will Muschamp, the former linebackers coach. Linebacker Bradie James, who considered skipping off to the NFL but stayed, will make Muschamp's job easier. He may be moved inside, but will be an All-SEC-caliber player regardless of where he lines up. Also competing at linebacker are Jeremy Lawrence, Lionel Turner and Jason LeDoux. Up front, Chad Lavalais leads the way. He's one of the top tackles in the league. Marcus Spears has been moved from tight end to defensive end, and looked good in the spring. Kendrick Allen is another defensive lineman who had a solid spring, and Marquise Hill will help, too.

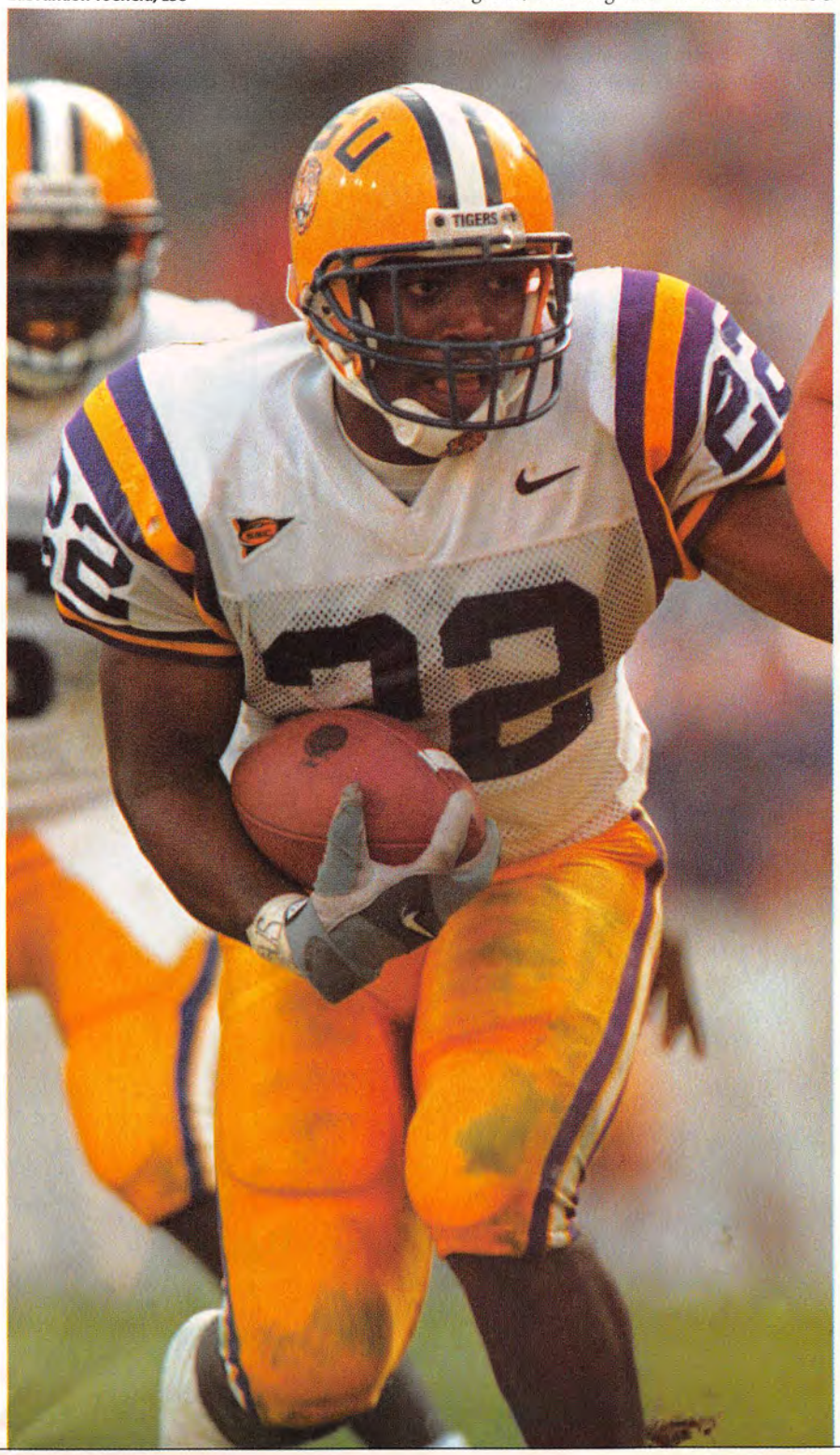
BRUCE SCHWARTZMAN

The secondary features Damien James, who moves from cornerback to free safety. There's also returning starters Demetrius Hookfin and Norman LeJeune. Ronnie Prude will get some playing time, as will Corey Webster, who moves to the secondary from wide receiver and had an impressive spring showing. Randall Gay and Travis Daniels are also expected to help.

2 Auburn

The West was Auburn's to win last season. Instead, the Tigers shared the crown with LSU, but didn't get the reward of playing in the SEC title game. Auburn's fast start made it appear the Tigers would be a shoo-in for the West crown. Instead, they stumbled down the stretch, losing four of their final five games, including a 27-14 decision at LSU and a 16-10 game to North Carolina in the Peach Bowl.

LaBrandon Toefield, *LSU*



Damon Duval, *Auburn*

At the end of the season coach Tommy Tuberville made some big changes, with both coordinators leaving. In their place, Tuberville hired Bobby Petrino from the Jacksonville Jaguars as offensive coordinator and Gene Chizik from Central Florida as defensive coordinator.

Through all the changes, some problems still remain, most specifically at quarterback. As the Tigers head into fall drills, Jason Campbell and Daniel Cobb are still battling for the starting position, much like last year. Campbell started eight games and played in 10 a year ago, while Cobb started four games and played in eight. In the spring, neither one claimed the job for himself, leaving the Auburn offense wondering who will call the signals.

There appears no question whose number will be called much of the year, provided he is healthy. That would be sophomore tailback Carnell Williams, who started two games and

LEFT TO RIGHT: PHOTO COURTESY OF LSU, JOHN WILLIAMSON

rushed for 614 yards on 120 carries last season. He suffered a broken clavicle on the first offensive series of the Alabama game but is expected to be ready this season. Behind him will be Ronnie Brown and Chris Butler. A potential contributor, Casinious Moore, left the team. At fullback, Brandon Johnson is the starter, backed by Michael Owens and Victor Horn.

Wide receiver is a bit thin and incoming freshmen (Auburn signed four) may play a key role there. Senior Marcel Willis needs to step forward with a good year. Jeris McIntyre and Silas Daniels could help. Tight end is loaded, with senior Lorenzo Diamond listed as the starter but junior Robert Johnson also set to get lots of playing time.

The offensive line needs to grow up quickly. Center Ben Nowland is back, as is guard Monreko Crittenden, but some freshmen—including Ben Obomanu, Devin Aromashodu, Montae Pitts and Lee Guess—could also figure prominently here, too.

Defensively, linebacker is a position of strength. Karlos Dansby, Dontarrious Thomas and Mark Brown will likely be the starters, but there is so much talent at the position that Tuberville may work with Chizik on some formations that allow more than three linebackers on the field at the same time. Travis Williams, Lamarcus Rowell, Antarrious Williams and Mayo Sowell could be among those players.

The secondary features sophomore corner Junior Rosegreen, with former corner Tavaris Robinson moving to free safety. Carlos Rogers, Roderick Hood, Rashaud Walker and Donnay Young will find time here, too.

Up front, junior DeMarco McNeil had offseason surgery on his right knee and didn't participate in spring drills. If fully recovered, he will be a leader on defense. Without him, Auburn will still have experienced players like Spencer Johnson, Dante Booker, Reggie Torbor and Jay Ratliff.

Damon Duval, perhaps the most dangerous special-teams player in the country, returns to handle the placekicking and punting.

3 Ole Miss

The Rebels present a tale of two teams.

The offense is loaded, led by Eli Manning at quarterback, a good group of receivers, an experienced offensive line and some strong possibilities at running back.

The defense is again a question mark. There are a few players with talent, including standout linebacker Eddie Strong, but this is a group that must prove itself if Ole Miss is to be the contender in the West some believe it has the chance to be.

As such, the defense was the main area of focus and concern during spring drills. Coach David Cutcliffe hired Chuck Driesbach as defensive coordinator and Driesbach installed a new system in Oxford during spring workouts. To take advantage of the team's quickness and try to cover up a lack of size, Driesbach is teaching a 4-2-5 defensive set that will use a lot of blitzes and stunts.

Up front, experienced junior Charlie Anderson will start at an end position, with help from Cory Robinson, Josh Cooper, Germaine Landrum and Jimmy Brooks. At the tackles, Daniel Booth, Jesse Mitchell, McKinley Boykin, Yahrek Johnson and Mike Gibson are expected to play. Strong, a top NFL prospect, leads the linebackers, with Lanier Goethie and L.P. Spence both returning from injuries to help. The Rebels struggled against the run last season and must address that problem.

The secondary will be led by senior cornerback Chris Knight, who had a stellar spring.

Offensively, Manning is the key. He put on another big show in the spring game and has already earned *Playboy* preseason All-America honors. David Morris is the backup, but this is Manning's show.

Four players emerged at tailback in spring practice—Ron McClendon (rated the No. 1

Eddie Strong, *Ole Miss*

STEVE BEYER

junior college tailback in the land by one scouting service), Robert Williams, Tremaine Turner and Toward Sanford—and all could see time.

At receiver, Manning will find plenty of targets, and he has proven he likes to spread the wealth. Chris Collins, Jason Armstead and Bill Flowers lead the way, but there's also room for Trey Fryfogle, Ross Barkley, Ratavious Biddle, Mario Hill and Mike Espy to help. The group offers a lot of speed and talent. Senior Doug Zeigler is a veteran starter at tight end and one of the best in the SEC.

The offensive line will miss third-round NFL pick Terrence Metcalf at tackle, but still has senior center Ben Claxton to lead the way with super sophomore guard Doug Buckles.

The Rebels have seven home games, but the five road trips will be tough—at Texas Tech, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and LSU.

4 Alabama

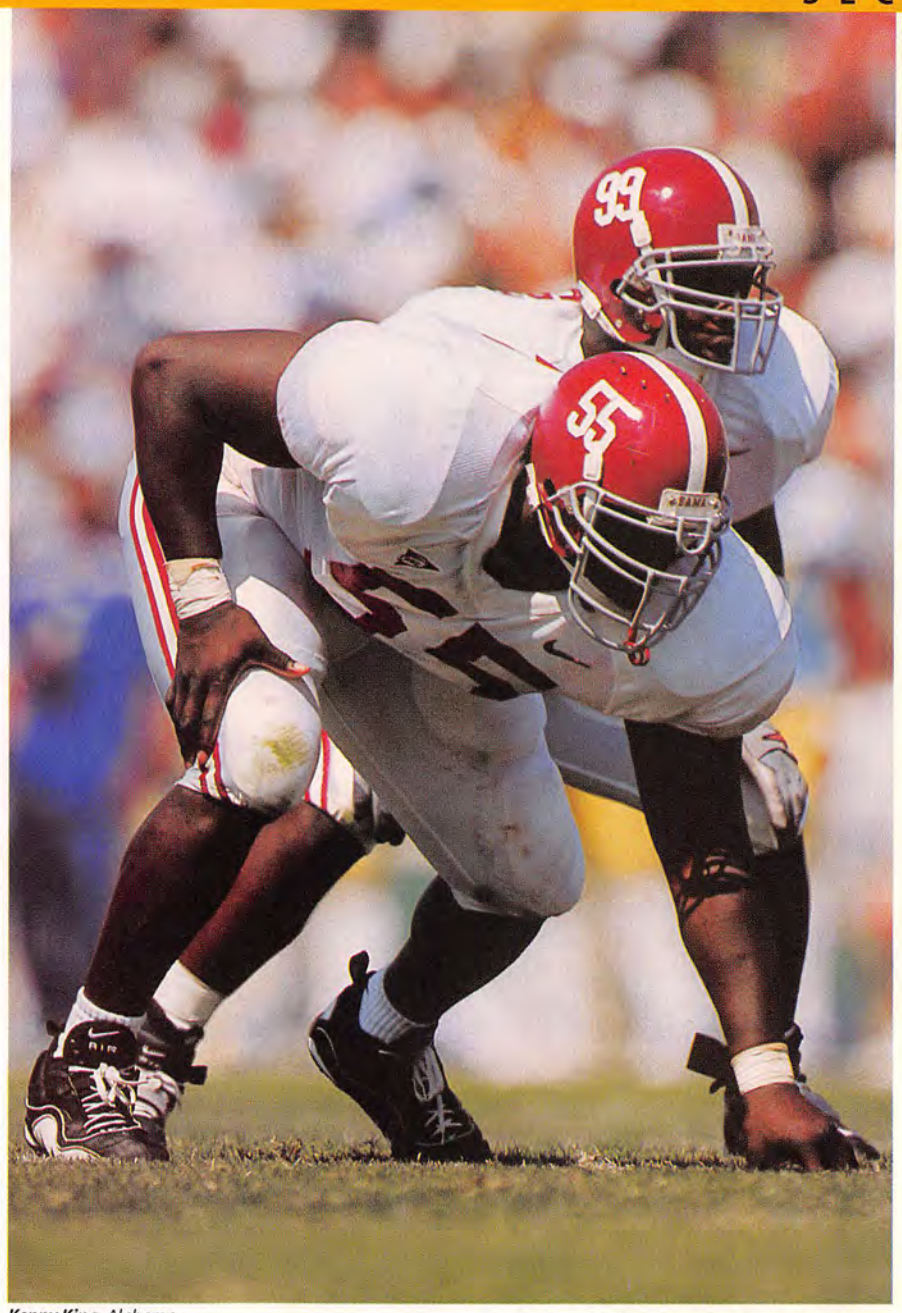
The Crimson Tide was dealt its biggest setback over the winter by the NCAA—not by graduation or injury. Sanctions against the team will prevent the Tide from playing in a postseason bowl game and will cost it several scholarships over the next few seasons.

But there are some other problems ahead for the team that posted a 7-5 record a year ago, too, just as there are reasons to believe Alabama could put together a run at the West Division crown.

Because of the sanctions, which will be increasingly evident on the field for the Tide in the seasons ahead, some believe this needs to be a season in which Alabama makes a run for the West title because there is some talent on hand.

Quarterback is a position that always seems to attract attention at Alabama, and this spring was no different. Andrew Zow is gone, leaving the starting nod to Tyler Watts, but the senior is going to be pushed by redshirt freshmen Brodie Croyle and Spencer Pennington. Croyle may get a chance to play a lot, and Pennington has shown some promise, too. However, coach Dennis Franchione needs the experienced Watts to step up his game for the Tide offense to be as successful as it can be.

Running back appears solid, as Ahmaad Galloway had a solid spring and Shaud Williams made himself known during the offseason. Ray Hudson and Santonio Beard may also figure into the mix. Donnie Lowe and Marvin Brown will receive most of the time at fullback. While Alabama hoped to put more passing plays in during the spring, the running game seemed to pick up momentum. An experienced offensive line will do the blocking. Theo Sanders and David Cavan will team to replace gradutated tight end Terry Jones.



Kenny King, *Alabama*

JON SOOHOO

The receiving corps is led by Antonio Carter, Sam Collins, Triandos Luke and Lance Taylor, with slot backs Dre Fulgham and Hudson also set to get some pass-catching action.

The defense should be solid again, especially up front, where the Tide may have the best group in the league. Jarret Johnson, Kenny King and Kindal Moorehead are the strength of that group. The linebacker position features Cornelius Wortham, Brooks Daniels and Freddie Roach.

The secondary of Waine Bacon, Gerald Dixon, Hirchel Bolden and Charles Jones is an experienced one.

The schedule will be difficult. Alabama travels to Oklahoma for its second game of the year, with visits to Arkansas, Tennessee and LSU also slated.

5 Arkansas

One of three West teams to finish the SEC schedule with a 4-4 record a year ago, the Razorbacks are looking for more consistency this season and a better mark. The Hogs started the season slow, losing three of their first four games, including three straight. Many thought they would simply fold up and go away. Instead, with the infusion of an option attack engineered by freshman quarterback Matt Jones, the Razorbacks made a charge, winning six straight games before losing their final two.

Matt Jones, *Arkansas*

That brings coach Houston Nutt back to the area of most concern: consistency. That goal will be made easier by a more experienced team this season. Six starters are back on offense and seven more return on defense, while five specialists are also back for another year.

Just as important, the Hogs have developed some depth, which will be important in the long, grinding season that finds Arkansas visiting Tennessee, Auburn, South Carolina and Mississippi State and playing eight home games (three in Little Rock).

Jones was pushed hard in the spring at QB by Tavaris Jackson and Ryan Sorahan. Jackson, especially, demonstrated a variety of skills. Zak Clark, who was the signal-caller last season until Jones claimed the job, transferred and is no longer part of the mix.

At running back, there's another bevy of options. Cedric Cobbs, who has had off-the-field problems and on-the-field disappointments, had what many said was an outstanding spring. But he'll receive competition from Fred Talley and Brandon Holmes, as well as De'Arrius Howard. Holmes will also see some time at fullback.

Nutt's still looking to stretch the field more, so the receivers will play an important role this season. Wideouts Richard Smith and George Wilson are back after strong years, with Wake Forest transfer Carlos Ousley also expected to offer help. Sparky Hamilton will get some playing time, too.

Mark Bokermann and Shawn Andrews return to starting roles on the offensive line. Josh Melton, Bo Lacy and Scott Davenport will be counted on up front. Nathan Ball returns at tight end, with help from Jason Peters and Marcellus Poydras.

Defensively, the Hogs lost some talented players, including linebacker Jermaine Petty and defensive end Carlos Hall, but there is some talent remaining. Jermaine Brooks and Raymond House are the standouts up front, but more depth is needed there and could come from some incoming freshmen.

Outside linebacker Jeb Huckeba has been moved to an inside position, with Clark Moore playing beside him inside. Caleb Miller, who missed the spring because of an injury, is at an outside linebacker post, with Tony Bua also returning there. Gavin Walls will also play linebacker as well as special teams. The SEC's hardest hitter, Ken Hamlin, returns to lead the secondary at free safety.

6 Mississippi State

The biggest surprise of the 2001 season in the SEC had to be the play of the Bulldogs, and it wasn't the kind of surprise they had hoped to achieve. Instead of playing for the West Division crown, as many had predicted, the Bulldogs instead fell flat, finishing a dismal 3-8 and 2-6 in the SEC.

MSU lost seven of its first nine games, including a 21-9 loss at home to Troy State, which was playing its transition season into Division I-A competition.

Nothing went right for the Bulldogs, who must now take what has traditionally been a strength in Starkville—the play in the trenches on offense and defense—and improve it in an effort to turn around their fortunes and get out of the West cellar.

It won't be an easy task, especially with MSU opening the season at Oregon and facing LSU, South Carolina, Memphis, Alabama and Ole Miss on the road, too.

There are some positive signs. Perhaps the best was the spring performance of Kevin Fant at quarterback. Having spent the past couple of seasons playing behind Wayne Madkin, Fant now appears ready to step forward and claim his time. He had a strong spring and displayed a lively arm and the ability to read defenses. Kyle York will be his backup.

At running back, Dontae Walker is the leader, but injuries have been a problem for him throughout his career. If he is unable to play, there is help. Sophomore Fred Reid is available, plus the Bulldogs signed a pair of prep All-America picks in Jarious Norwood and Nick Turner. Justin Griffith will be the fullback.

Making room for the backs will be an offensive line that needs depth. Derrick Thompson, Donald Tucker and Blake Jones are returning starters. Tucker moved from guard to tackle in the spring.

The receivers will be Terrell Grindle, Justin Jenkins, Antonio Hargro and Ray Ray Bivines. MSU is expected to make tight end Donald Lee more of a pass-catching threat this year.

On defense, Kahlil Nash, Ronald Fields Tommy Kelly, Kamau Jackson and Jason Clark hope to improve their play up front. The type of dominant players the Bulldogs would like at those positions have not been developed as of yet. Senior Mario Haggan leads the linebacker corps, while classmate Josh Morgan heads the secondary at free safety. ■

JOHN WILLIAMSON

Without a Carr, Fresno will have a hard time catching Broncos.

BY MIKE BROWN
TULSA WORLD

For the first time in three years, the Western Athletic Conference will start the season with the same teams it ended with the year before.

Louisiana Tech and Boise State boosted membership to 10 and finished first and tied for second, respectively, in their first year.

In a fair world, critics would stop viewing the WAC as primarily an unstable conglomeration of mismatched, unwanted schools. It is increasingly apparent, however, that the national media won't give the league a fair hearing.

Consider the case of the Fresno State Bulldogs and quarterback David Carr.

The Bulldogs skyrocketed to prominence with opening upsets of Colorado, Oregon State and Wisconsin last season, but fell out of sight just as quickly after being upset by WAC rivals Boise State and Hawaii, losses that cost conference members an estimated $11.8 million in potential bowl revenue.

Carr, who guided Fresno's headline-grabbing victories, led the nation in passing yardage (4,299) and became the No. 1 pick in the NFL Draft. But he didn't finish in the top four in balloting for the Heisman Tropy.

What more could Carr have done?

Boise State, Louisiana Tech and Hawaii have three of the most potent passing attacks in the nation and will join Fresno battling for this year's title. Boise State may have the edge, playing the other three at home.

Another interesting race shapes up for fifth place, and don't be surprised if SMU and San Jose State make significant strides.

Predictions

1. **Boise State**
2. **Fresno State**
3. **Louisiana Tech**
4. **Hawaii**
5. **Southern Methodist**
6. **San Jose State**
7. **Nevada**
8. **Tulsa**
9. **Rice**
10. **Texas-El Paso**

One man's opinion

"The WAC is a very underrated conference with many talented and explosive players. To understand this, you need look no further than where the best players get picked in the NFL Draft."
—*Tulsa assistant Jeff McInerny*

Games to watch

Fresno State at Boise State, October 19
The Broncos' 35-30 upset in Fresno last year torpedoed the Bulldogs' undefeated season.

Fresno State at Louisiana Tech, November 2
Severe culture shock as Californians visit Ruston for the first time.

Louisiana Tech at Boise State, November 16
The WAC's newest members may again decide the title in another wild shootout. Tech won 48-42 last year.

All-WAC Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
WR—**Bernard Berrian**, senior, Fresno State	DL—**Nick Burley**, senior, Fresno State
WR—**Nate Burleson**, senior, Nevada	DL—**Brandon Green**, senior, Rice
TE—**John Hampton**, senior, SMU	DL—**Lute Croy**, senior, SMU
OL—**Fita Tu'ua**, junior, Fresno State	DL—**Sam Rayburn**, senior, Tulsa
OL—**Vincent Manuwai**, senior, Hawaii	LB—**Chris Brown**, senior, Hawaii
OL—**Rodney Michael**, senior, Fresno State	LB—**Vic Viloria**, senior, SMU
OL—**Tom Provost**, senior, San Jose State	LB—**Pisa Tinoisamoa**, sophomore, Hawaii
OL—**Rob Vian**, senior, Boise State	DB—**Quintin Mikell**, senior, Boise State
QB—**Ryan Dinwiddie**, junior, Boise State	DB—**Jonas Rutledge**, junior, SMU
RB—**Chance Kretchsmer**, sophomore, Nevada	DB—**D.J. Walker**, senior, UTEP
RB—**Brock Forsey**, senior, Boise State	DB—**Weldon Cooks**, senior, UTEP
PK—**Asen Asparuhov**, senior, Fresno State	P—**Jason Simpson**, senior, Fresno State

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Bernard Berrian**, WR, Fresno State
Best hands: **Nate Burleson**, WR, Nevada
Best passing QB: **Ryan Dinwiddie**, Boise State
Best option QB: **Kyle Herm**, Rice
Most elusive RB: **Chance Kretschmer**, Nevada
Best instincts: **Brandon Green**, DE, Rice
Best athlete: **Bernard Berrian**, WR, Fresno State
Best under pressure: **Luke McCown**, QB, Louisiana Tech
Top NFL prospect: **Bernard Berrian**, WR, Fresno State
Top impact freshman: **Jerome Janet**, WR, Tulsa
Hardest hitter: **Vic Viloria**, LB, SMU
Biggest underachiever: **Kris Briggs**, RB, SMU

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **June Jones**, Hawaii
Best recruiter: **Pat Hill**, Fresno State
Coach on the spot: **Keith Burns**, Tulsa/**Gary Nord**, UTEP

Don't be surprised if...

. . . SMU challenges for the WAC title in its first season with new head coach **Phil Bennett**.

Rating the recruits

1. Fresno State
Hill cleaned up in the Valley and picked a linebacking plumb (Ricky Miller) out of L.A.

2. Hawaii
Blue-chip linebacker (Chad Kalilimoku) highlighted solid class.

3. Southern Methodist
Bennett calls it an athletic class with size and speed.

4. Nevada
Wolf Pack signed three top Nevada prep players and second-team juco All-America linebacker Joey Barnes.

5. Tulsa
Burns found quality juco receiver (Romby Bryant) and loaded up on defensive tackles.

6. Boise State
Broncos went large for linemen, signing seven on offense and six on defense.

7. San Jose State
Spartans signed three juco All-Americas, and defensive tackle Eddie Brown should play right away.

8. Rice
Owls went for speed and landed Arizona's prep Player of the Year, running back Mike Falco.

9. Louisiana Tech
Bulldogs picked up one of the best defensive tackles in the South (LaDarius Love).

10. Texas-El Paso
Miners picked off a potentially big-time receiver (Joe West) and signed eight defensive linemen.

1 Boise State

The Broncos finished a game out of first place in their first WAC season and have the ingredients to win the title in their second.

They'll have to replace key personnel in the offensive line and at linebacker and defensive end, but return a talented secondary and the main components of one of the nation's top offenses.

They also have a favorable schedule, with the league's other three top contenders—Fresno State, Louisiana Tech and Hawaii—all slated to visit the blue turf of Bronco Stadium.

Boise State's high-scoring offense hardly skipped a beat last season when Ryan Dinwiddie replaced record-setting, three-year starting quarterback Bart Hendricks. Dinwiddie ranked fourth nationally in pass efficiency (164.7) while throwing for 3,043 yards (the second-highest total in school history) and 29 touchdowns.

Dinwiddie returns his top four receivers and one of the league's most versatile tailbacks. All-WAC running back Brock Forsey enters his last year as the school's fourth-leading career rusher (2,434) and third-leading all-purpose runner (4,298).

Three offensive linemen must be replaced, but Scott Huff is a three-year returning starter at center and Rob Vian will be in his third starting season at right guard.

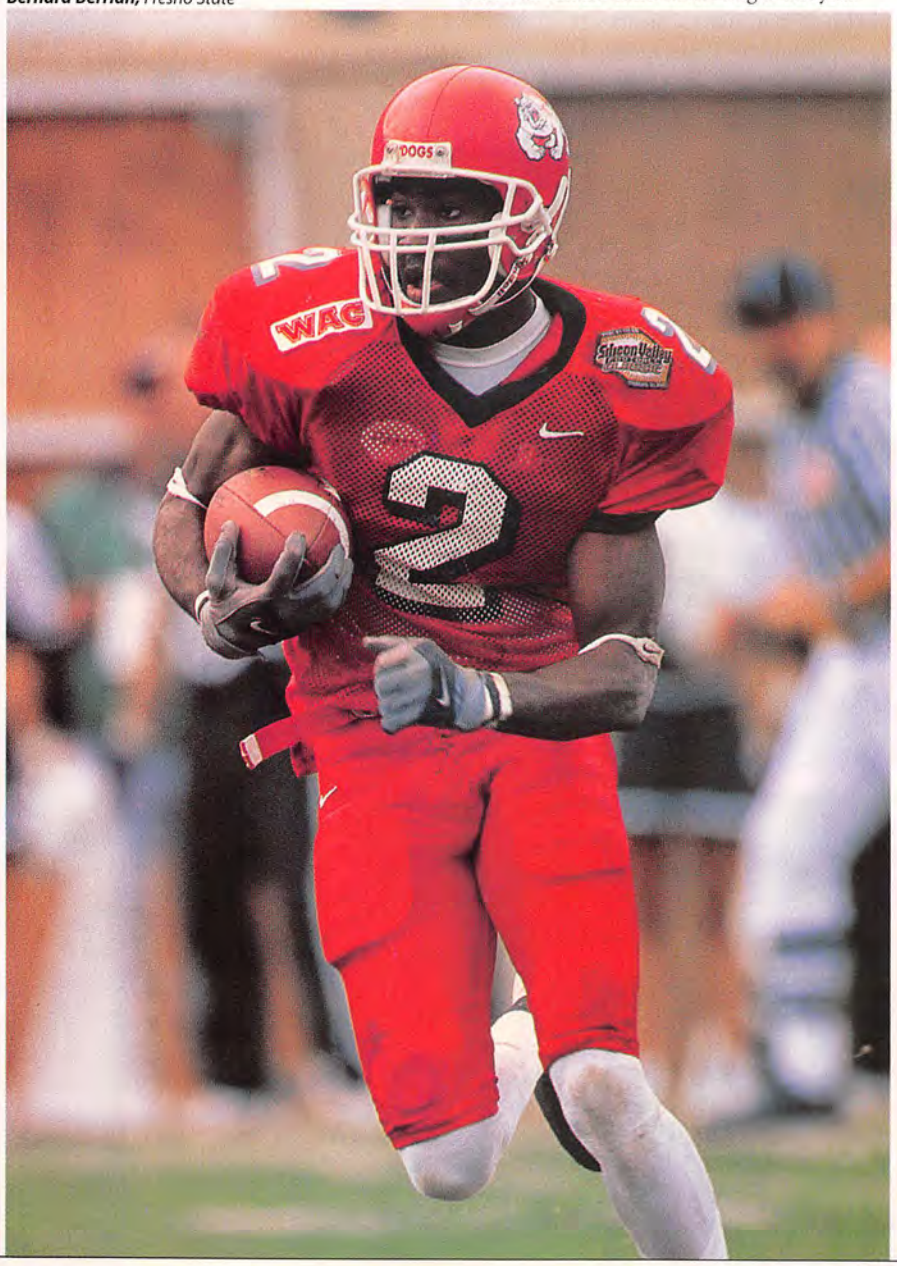
Coach Dan Hawkins elevated linebackers coach Ron Collins to the role of defensive coordinator when Bob Gregory left for the same job at California. Collins must replace his defensive ends but should be solid elsewhere coaching a unit that ranked third in the league last year.

All four starters return in the secondary, led by All-WAC strong safety Quintin Mikell, who heads into his fourth starting season. Mikell registered a team-leading 87 tackles last year.

The Broncos proved to all doubters last season that they belonged in their new conference by beating WAC contenders Hawaii and Fresno State on the road. The latter was especially noteworthy, since it represented Fresno's first home loss in three years and came after the Bulldogs had created a national stir by upsetting Colorado, Oregon State and Wisconsin.

Boise State administrators seemed more than satisfied with Hawkins' work as a first-year head coach. They were on the verge of handing him a new five-year contract, the longest term permitted by Idaho's State Board of Education.

Bernard Berrian, *Fresno State*



PAUL JASIENSKI

2 Fresno State

It seems unlikely that the Bulldogs will match their success of last season, when they achieved their first Top 10 ranking and won 11 games for just the fourth time in school history.

They'll have to do it against another murderous schedule and without all-everything quarterback David Carr, who set records galore in his senior season, claimed many national awards and became the No. 1 pick in the NFL Draft by the expansion Houston Texans.

All-league tackle Alan Harper also finished his eligibility last year, and coach Pat Hill will have to replace seven others. But Hill still has speedy receiver Bernard Berrian, the best offensive line in the league and a strong nucleus to contend for this year's title.

Seven starters return on each side of the ball, along with the WAC's best kicking combination. Asen Asparuhov led the nation with 23 field goals last season, while Jason Simpson punted for a 43.8-yard average. Both were all-conference honorees.

Redshirt junior Jeff Grady has big shoes to fill as Carr's quarterback replacement, but is projected as a big-time playmaker in his own right. Plenty of leadership is expected from a veteran offensive line, with four starters returning from a unit that permitted Carr to be sacked just 25 times and paved the way for tailback Paris Gaines to gain 1,024 rushing yards.

Gaines has finished his eligibility, but senior Derrick Ward is ready to take over. A fast and powerful back, Ward was once dismissed from the program and missed a year with a knee injury, but hopes to return to the form of his freshman year when he rushed for 875 yards.

Berrian caught 76 passes for 1,270 yards and 13 TDs last season and emerged as the league's most explosive return specialist. He ignited the 32-20 upset of Wisconsin by running back the second-half kickoff 96 yards and set a WAC record with 2,519 all-purpose yards.

Hill has insisted throughout his tenure that the Bulldogs play teams from the so-called "power conferences," and this year will be no different. They'll play Wisconsin and Oregon State for the second straight year, along with Pac-10 champion Oregon, all on the road.

3 Louisiana Tech

Bulldog fans can expect to see a new and improved Luke McCown playing quarterback this season.

He's already one of the best passers in Louisiana Tech history, and now he's working to become a better runner.

McCown hopes to exploit defenders who drop off the line of scrimmage when he goes back to pass and leave him with open running lanes.

He scrambled effortlessly during one scrimmage session last spring, gaining 93 yards on the ground to go with 152 through the air.

McCown may have to buy himself extra time this season as the Bulldogs work new receivers into the mix and attempt to defend the WAC title they won in their first year in the league.

Two veteran receivers (D.J. Curry and Ahmad Harris) will return, but three others ended their eligibility with last year's loss to Clemson in the Humanitarian Bowl. John Simon, Delwyn Daigre and Allen Stark combined to catch 176 passes for 2,076 yards.

Coach Jack Bicknell III must also replace five of his 10 leading tacklers, including outside linebacker Bobby Gray, who finished as the sixth-best tackler in school history with 390 stops.

Still, it's hard to feel badly for Bicknell with eight starters returning from the nation's eighth-rated passing offense.

Curry and Harris combined for 83 catches and 1,065 yards. Junior college transfer Joe Smith stepped into the backfield as a junior and rushed for 931 yards, the most by a Bulldog runner in nine years.

Tight end Major Richmond and three other linemen return from a unit that permitted McCown to get sacked just 30 times. McCown took advantage of all that protection to complete 62 percent of his passes for 3,337 yards and 28 TDs and just 14 interceptions. He starts his junior year as the sixth-leading passer in school history with 5,881 yards.

Tech is known for its difficult non-league schedules, and this year will be no exception. The Bulldogs host Oklahoma State in Shreveport on August 31 and go to Penn State, Clemson and Texas A&M, all in September. But they get a break in their WAC schedule, hosting Fresno State and avoiding Hawaii altogether.

4 Hawaii

After recovering from injuries suffered in a near-fatal automobile crash the preceding spring, coach June Jones guided his Rainbow Warriors to a similar recovery last fall.

Jones plugged in senior quarterback Nick Rolovich when sophomore phenom Timmy Chang injured his throwing wrist and the almost-forgotten Rolovich was reborn.

With Rolovich under center, the Warriors led the WAC and ranked second nationally in passing (381.3 yards per game) and won eight of their last nine games, including a landmark 72-45 triumph over BYU, spoiling the Cougars' bid for an undefeated season.

Jones' second glittering record (9-3) in three years in Honolulu will be hard to duplicate this season because the Warriors must replace key players at receiver (first-round NFL pick Ashley Lelie) and in the offensive line. He also faces a difficult schedule, with road games at WAC contenders Fresno State and Boise State.

The return of Chang gives Hawaii a good start. He threw for 1,100 yards in the three games he played last year and ranks as the sixth-leading passer in school history. He was granted a medical hardship and returns with three years of eligibility, but sat out spring drills while recuperating from wrist surgery.

Lelie declared for the NFL Draft after setting school records as a junior last season. Justin Colbert is the lone returnee from a receiving quartet that accounted for 3,921 yards and 35 TDs, but Chad Owens and Neal Gossett are good candidates to take up the slack.

Two offensive linemen must be replaced, but three others return, including All-America candidate Vince Manuwai, a guard who had 35 pancake blocks last season.

There's still plenty of room for improvement on defense, where eight starters return. The Warriors gave up 431.7 yards per game last year, but jumped from 91st to 17th nationally in turnover margin and permitted a touchdown less per game than the year before.

5 Southern Methodist

There's something old and something new in Dallas, and they may add up to a big step forward for the Mustangs.

Vic Viloria, SMU

Phil Bennett, defensive coordinator at Kansas State the past three years, replaces fired coach Mike Cavan and inherits the WAC's best defense from last year.

SMU has had just one winning season since incurring the NCAA "death penalty" in the mid-1980s, but optimism is running high with the coaching change and the return of 16 starters, many of whom have played regularly for two and three years.

"We have high expectations," Bennett said when introduced as the school's 15th coach last December. "I've never gone into a game not thinking we are going to win. Our expectancy is to win the WAC championship, and that will never change."

STEVE BEYER

Linebacker Vic Viloria and cornerback Jonas Rutledge earned All-WAC honors last season and lead a group of eight returnees from a unit that ranked 22nd nationally in total defense.

The 47-year-old Bennett will fit right in. He played defensive end at Texas A&M and has coordinated defenses for most of his 22-year coaching career, with stops at Iowa State, LSU, Oklahoma, A&M and TCU. During his three years at Kansas State, the Wildcats ranked second, fourth and third nationally in total defense.

Bennett's first important challenge is to stabilize one of the WAC's worst offenses. The Mustangs weren't just unproductive last year, they were counterproductive. They lost 29 turnovers, five of which were run back for touchdowns in the first three games, all losses.

Seniors Chris Cunningham, Cody Cardwell and tight end John Hampton head up a capable receiving group, and sophomore tailback ShanDerrick Charles is a rising star. Charles broke Craig James' SMU freshman rushing record with 899 yards last season. He also ranked fifth nationally with 6.4 yards per carry and broke another school record with 455 yards in his first two starts.

Junior Kelan Luker started three games at quarterback last season and has the edge over three talented redshirt freshmen.

6 San Jose State

If coach Fitz Hill actually builds the Spartans into a consistent winner, his second recruiting class may be remembered as the turning point.

It certainly showed that athletes are buying into what Hill is selling, which is that he never would have taken the job if he didn't think he could succeed.

Hill coordinated recruiting at Arkansas before coming to the Bay Area almost two years ago and saying that California was ripe for the harvest.

He knew the Spartans needed to be replenished quickly after last season, and set out to sign the best junior college players he could. He landed three All-Americas and two all-state players from California community colleges.

"People definitely wanted to be here," he says. "These young men bought into the vision of what we are doing and believe in the direction we are going."

Hill brought in 17 players with juco experience, and many will be rushed to the front lines as the Spartans try to replace 15 starters, including nine on defense.

"We'll give 'em the microwave treatment," Hill says. "We've gotta get 'em in the oven and get 'em heated up."

Hill will stress fundamentals and taking care of the football this fall because the Spartans shot themselves in the foot repeatedly last season.

They fell to a minus-8 in turnover margin from a plus-6 during the 2000 season and Hill thinks it's the main reason they also fell to 3-9 after going 7-5 and challenging for the WAC title the year before.

Quarterback Marcus Arroyo threw more interceptions (14) than TD passes (12) and earned himself a demotion, with Clint Carlson starting three games. But Arroyo returns for his senior year as the seventh-leading passer in school history with 4,613 yards and Hill says "we're lucky to have him."

The other top returnees are three-year starting offensive tackle Tim Provost and defensive tackle Brandon Miles, who is being moved to fullback.

Defensive tackle Eddie Brown, receiver Kendrick Starling and offensive guard Justin Arrington earned juco All-America honors at their respective schools last fall and are the best among many juco players expected to contribute.

7 Nevada

If this were poker, it would be fair to say that coach Chris Tormey is holding some aces. But Tormey isn't standing pat, and he knows he still needs a good draw to make a strong hand.

Tormey returns 19 starters, the most experience he's had since he arrived in Reno two years ago. But he has to replace the leading passer in school history and improve a defense that ranked among that nation's worst last year.

David Neill finished his eligibility as Nevada's career leader in both passing yardage (10,911) and total offense (11,664), but Tormey has dependable Zack Threadgill ready to take over. Threadgill started two games that Neill missed last year and threw for 801 yards.

Tormey also has three of the WAC's most dangerous offensive weapons. Tailback Chance Kretschmer became just the second freshman to lead the nation in rushing last year, averaging 157.5 yards per game. Senior Nate Burleson has caught passes totaling 1,658 yards and 10 TDs over two seasons. Sophomore kicker Damon Fine set one school record last year by kicking a 58-yard field goal and another by kicking five in one game.

Nevada improved from the losingest team in school history (2-10) in Tormey's first season to 3-8 in his second. The Wolf Pack was 3-5 in conference play and close in two of its losses. That's despite falling from 103rd to 114th nationally in total defense.

Chance Kretschmer, *Nevada*

PAUL JASIENSKI

Tormey made significant changes in spring drills, shifting middle linebacker Jorge Cordova to defensive end and defensive ends Derek Kennard Jr. and Chris Barry to tackles. He also brought in four defenders from the junior college ranks, including second-team All-America linebacker Joey Barnes.

Defenders dominated the spring game in March, and Tormey liked what he saw. "There is no question the defense is a lot better than (it was) a year ago," he says. "We still have a long way to go (before) we open against Washington State (August 31)."

8 Tulsa

The silence was deafening at Skelly Stadium last spring as Keith Burns and his staff worked to reassemble the pieces of a shattered season.

Injuries, controversy and poor tackling sent the Hurricane to its second-worst record (1-10) in school history.

Tulsa gave up its third-worst point total ever (387) and lost to all 10 Division I-A foes by an average of 24.4 points per game.

Burns created controversy by promoting freshman quarterback Tyler Gooch over popular starter Josh Blankenship, who threw for more than 5,000 yards in three years and eventually transferred to Division I-AA Eastern Washington.

Gooch played sensationally in two games, poorly in two others and missed all or part of three games with an ankle injury. It didn't matter who played quarterback because the Hurricane defense, despite outstanding years by tackle Sam Rayburn and linebacker Michael Dulaney, couldn't stop anyone.

San Jose State ripped Tulsa for a school-record 746 yards. Against the Spartans, Oklahoma and Rice, the Hurricane gave up a combined 1,940 yards and 180 points, the most ever by a TU team in a three-game span.

For the second straight year, injuries hampered many of the best players. Tailback Eric Richardson was never the same after getting a neck stinger at UTEP. Keithan McCorry, the best athlete in the secondary, missed three games.

Burns, criticized during his first year at the helm for mocking rival Oklahoma State and predicting a bowl appearance that didn't materialize, did what he could in the offseason to engineer a quick turnaround.

He replaced offensive coordinator Jim Gilstrap with veteran Dan Lounsbury from TCU, demoted defensive coordinator Jeff McInerney and dipped into the junior colleges to fill immediate needs.

Burns got one speck of good news when *Parade* All-America receiver Jerome Janet left Kansas State before his freshman year and enrolled at TU. Janet and juco transfer Romby Bryant should help the Hurricane overcome the loss of Donald Shoals, who ended as the fifth-leading receiver in school history.

9 Rice

Rice achieved its best record (8-4) in 48 years last season, a feat that will be hard to duplicate because of severe graduation losses.

Coach Ken Hatfield must replace 27 seniors and 14 starters from a squad that ranked second nationally in rushing and made good on his pledge to open up the offense, passing for its highest yardage total (1,468) in his eight seasons at the helm.

The Owls lost their four leading tacklers, five of their six top offensive linemen and a fullback (Jamie Tyler) who rushed for nearly 1,700 yards over four seasons. Seven defensive starters are gone, including All-WAC linebacker Dan Dawson and three-year starting safety Jason Hebert.

But a smattering of outstanding athletes return, and Hatfield will be looking for leadership from junior quarterback Kyle Herm, junior receiver Gavin Boothe and senior All-WAC defensive end Brandon Green.

Green is one of the most aggressive players in the conference, as he proved last year by collecting a league-leading 12 sacks. Nearly one-third of his 64 total tackles were behind enemy lines.

Defensive help is on the way. Junior Jeff Vanover returns to take over one of the three vacated linebacking spots. He earned a starting berth last August before injuring his knee and missing the season.

Sophomore Jeremy Calahan started three games at tackle as a freshman and joins Green and returning tackle Ross Lassley on the defensive line. Former starting tackle B.J. Forguson also returns, having missed almost two full years with an injured shoulder.

The offensive line has to be rebuilt almost from scratch, but Hatfield returns his best receivers and the top five rushers. The 6-foot-1 Boothe is one of the most athletic receivers in the WAC and Herm is its most effective option quarterback. He led the Owls in rushing (897) and touchdowns (11) last year and threw for 1,121 yards.

Robbie Beck shared fullback with Tyler in 2001 and was the team's second-leading rusher with 634 yards. Seniors Vincent Hawkins and Sean White are the most experienced returnees at halfback, and sophomore Clint Hatfield (no relation to the head coach) demonstrated outstanding potential as a freshman last year. He is projected to be the Owls' best at the position in five years.

10 UTEP

Gary Nord returns a good bit more experience for his third year at the Miners' helm, and that's cause for big relief in El Paso.

Nord had no idea how negatively a lack of veteran players would affect the Miners last year. After tying for the WAC title the year before, they slumped to 2-9 and lost their final seven games.

Only one senior started on a defensive unit that permitted 37.6 points and 415.6 yards per game. On offense, the Miners lost 31 turnovers and ranked ninth in the 10-team WAC in total yards.

By season's end, UTEP was playing 25 sophomores and freshmen on its first and second teams. Things should change for the better, as Nord welcomes 15 seniors and juniors among his 18 returning starters.

Senior defensive backs D.J. Walker, a two-time All-WAC second-team honoree, and Weldon Cooks are the best of 10 defensive returnees, along with linebackers Camar Jackson and Robert Rodriguez.

Nord thinks the Miners have the speed to play an attacking defense and plans to switch from last year's 4-3 alignment to the 4-2-5 look they used during the 2000 championship season.

"We'll rush the passer with four down linemen and cover with the other seven," Nord says. "We want to keep it simple and allow the players to fly around and have fun."

Ariel Famaligi and Trey Darilek are the best of four returning blockers who will provide an offensive nucleus while the Miners work in a new quarterback and replace big-play receiver Lee Mays, who finished his career with 200 catches, 2,908 yards and 28 TDs.

The Miners may run more and throw less, with senior tailback Sherman Austin being backed up by blazing sophomore Howard Jackson, who rushed for 199 yards in his last two games last year and was the WAC's Co-Freshman of the Year in indoor track.

Jon Schaper takes over at quarterback after starting two games as a freshman last season. He was erratic as a passer (25-of-60 with five interceptions), but is more mobile than graduated senior Wesley Phillips, and Nord thinks he is capable of making big plays on the run. ■

Without a Doman-ator, will the Cougs get Van Pelt-ed?

BY LOREN JORGENSEN
(SALT LAKE CITY) DESERET NEWS

It was the type of breakout season the Mountain West Conference had been hoping for since its inception in 1999. Brigham Young University reeled off a dozen straight wins to open the season, earning a Top 10 national ranking in the process. Certainly the Cougars were threatening to crash the Bowl Championship Series' private party.

Or were they?

The fact of the matter is that BYU and the MWC were denied a lucrative BCS bowl berth even before the Cougars were knocked from ranks of the unbeaten by Hawaii in the regular-season finale. It turns out, not surprisingly, that getting into a BCS bowl game is not a realistic goal for a member of the MWC.

Going to any ol' bowl game, on the other hand, isn't such a tough task anymore. The MWC has agreements to send four of its eight teams to postseason games this year. The league champion will go to the Liberty Bowl, with other conference teams lined up to play in the Las Vegas, Seattle and San Francisco bowls. Those may sound like booby prizes to schools from BCS leagues, but any bowl berth is a big deal to teams and fans in the MWC.

The league has had good success of late in postseason, too. Mountain West teams are a combined 5-1 in bowls the past two years, with the only blemish being BYU's Liberty Bowl loss to Louisville last New Year's Eve.

A year ago BYU ran away with the league title, posting a 7-0 mark behind the rushing exploits of Doak Walker Award winner Luke Staley and the leadership and athleticism of QB Brandon Doman. Both Staley and Doman are gone, however, giving MWC foes realistic hopes of unseating the Cougs.

Colorado State, with a bend-but-don't-break defense and a gunslinger of a quarterback in tough Bradlee Van Pelt, appears to have the best chance of knocking BYU off its perch.

Predictions

1. BYU
2. Colorado State
3. New Mexico
4. Utah
5. UNLV
6. Air Force
7. San Diego State
8. Wyoming

Games to watch

New Mexico at Air Force, September 7
Early-season game will determine a dark-horse league title contender.

UNLV at San Diego State, October 26
The league's two biggest disappointments of '01 are looking for redemption.

BYU at Utah, November 23
Conference title will likely still be up for grabs when these in-state rivals meet in the final game of the regular season.

All-Mountain West Team

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
QB—**Bret Engemann**, junior, BYU	DL—**Garrett Smith**, senior, Utah
WR—**Reno Mahe**, senior, BYU	DL—**Jason Kaufusi**, junior, Utah
WR—**Ryan McGuffey**, junior, Wyoming	DL—**Ryan Iata**, senior, San Diego State
RB—**Joe Haro**, senior, UNLV	DL—**Ahmad Briggs**, senior, UNLV
RB—**Cecil Sapp**, junior, Colorado State	LB—**Sheldon Deckart**, senior, Utah
TE—**Joel Dreessen**, sophomore, Colorado State	LB—**Eric Pauly**, junior, Colorado State
OL—**Adam Goldberg**, senior, Wyoming	LB—**Drew Wood**, sophomore, Colorado State
OL—**Ben Archibald**, senior, BYU	LB—**Charles Moss**, senior, New Mexico
OL—**Jordan Gross**, senior, Utah	DB—**Jernaro Gilford**, junior, BYU
OL—**Johnathan Ingram**, senior, San Diego State	DB—**Antwoine Sanders**, junior, Utah
OL—**Jason Lenzmeier**, junior, New Mexico	DB—**Paul Mayo**, senior, Air Force
PK—**Jarvis Wallum**, senior, Wyoming	DB—**Arnold Parker**, junior, Utah
RS—**Dexter Wynn**, junior, Colorado State	P—**Joey Huber**, senior, Colorado State

Rating the players

Fastest receiver: **Joe Manning**, WR, New Mexico
Best hands: **Ryan McGuffey**, WR, Wyoming
Best passing QB: **Bret Engemann**, BYU
Best option QB: **Chance Harridge**, Air Force
Most elusive RB: **Dominique Dorsey**, UNLV
Best instincts: **Reno Mahe**, WR, BYU
Best athlete: **Jason Thomas**, QB, UNLV
Best under pressure: **Bradlee Van Pelt**, QB, Colorado State
Top NFL prospect: **Ben Olson**, QB, BYU
Top impact freshman: **Freddie Collins**, RB, San Diego State
Hardest hitter: **Sheldon Deckart**, LB, Utah
Biggest underachiever: **Jason Thomas**, QB, UNLV

Rating the coaches

Best strategist: **Sonny Lubick**, Colorado State
Best recruiter: **Gary Crowton**, BYU
Coach on the spot: **Vic Koenning**, Wyoming

Don't be surprised if...

. . . Wyoming actually wins a league game this year after going 0-14 the past two seasons.

One man's opinion

"I can't understand why San Diego State isn't a power in this league. (The Aztecs) always have outstanding athletes, they play in an NFL stadium, have the largest local recruiting base and have a beautiful city and climate to recruit to. Yet they seem to struggle almost every year."

—an MWC assistant coach

Rating the recruits

1. BYU
Landed several big-time players, including Ben Olson, the nation's top prep QB.

2. Colorado State
RB Tristan Walker could become a star in Rams' one-back set.

3. San Diego State
RB Freddie Collins averaged 8.6 yards per carry for nearly 2,500 yards as a prep.

4. Utah
TE Ben Allison, RB Brandon Warfield and WR Steven Savoy should help immediately.

5. UNLV
John Robinson is a good recruiter, but this isn't one of his better classes.

6. Wyoming
Picked up OL Mark Schwarz from Florida. Word of advice: buy a warm coat.

7. New Mexico
True freshman QB Kole McKarney could see playing time this season.

8. Air Force
Who knows how good this class will be? Falcons don't sign letters of intent.

1 BYU

The Cougars, under first-year coach Gary Crowton, played a crowd-pleasing style of wide-open football where statisticians and scoreboard operators had their work cut out for them last season.

Defense? Who needed it? BYU surrendered 30-plus points and 450 yards per game—and still managed to win by an average of 16 points every time it took the field.

Losing quarterback Brandon Doman and running back Luke Staley to NFL camps, however, will be damaging. Staley averaged an incredible 8.1 yards every time he carried the ball. He also scored 28 touchdowns. It was no coincidence that the Cougars' two-game losing streak to end the season came when Staley was out with injuries.

Still, the Cougars look to be the MWC team to beat. They have players with strong resumes ready to take over for departed stars.

"Last season we had a lot of success," Crowton says. "We had great leadership and some talented players. They are gone now and it's our job to find new leaders and equally talented players to continue winning championships."

Marcus Whalen is one of those potential leaders. Whalen, who sat out last season after rushing for 209 yards on 38 carries (5.5 yards per carry) as a freshman, will take over as the featured running back. Senior quarterback Bret Engemann, a part-time starter in 2000 before sitting out last year as a redshirt, is the odds-on favorite to earn the coveted BYU QB job. He has good size (6-4, 220 pounds) and is a fine passer, but doesn't have nearly the mobility to be as threatening a running weapon as Doman. BYU actually ran numerous option plays for Doman, who was a wishbone QB in high school. Crowton insists the option will remain in the Cougar playbook. Just don't expect Engemann, a better drop-back passer than Doman, to be very adept at running the football.

Should Engemann get injured or fail to get the job done, a trio of highly touted youngsters waits in the wings. Sophomore Todd Mortensen will be joined by redshirt freshman Matt Berry and true freshman Ben Olson in a fight to backup Engemann. Olson, a consensus prep All-America, was considered by many as the top high school QB recruit in the country.

Reno Mahe figures to again be BYU's leading receiver. He caught 91 passes for 1,211 yards and nine TDs last season. A big offensive line is anchored by Ben Archibald and Dustin Rykert.

BYU's defense was much maligned last season, but it made big plays when it needed to in several close victories. Linebacker Paul Walkenhorst and cornerback Jernaro Gilford are the best of the six returning starters.

2 Colorado State

Under the direction of Sonny Lubick, now in his 10th season in Fort Collins, the Rams have become perennial conference title contenders. This year should be no different—unless CSU is too beat-up or discouraged from a brutal non-league schedule to compete for the MWC crown.

The Rams open the season in the Jim Thorpe Association Classic at Virginia. They will then play Colorado in Denver, followed by games at UCLA and at home against Louisville. CSU will also face Fresno State in Fresno before opening up MWC action.

In other words, a .500 mark in non-league games would be a huge accomplishment.

The Rams, champions of the New Orleans Bowl last season, will be gunning for a school-record fourth consecutive bowl berth. Under the direction of hard-nosed, athletic quarterback Bradlee Van Pelt, another postseason bid is probable. Van Pelt, the son of former New York Giants linebacker Brad Van Pelt and a transfer from Michigan State, isn't a great passer. But he plays the QB position with the reckless abandon of a linebacker and is always a threat to take off running with the ball for big gains when he drops back to pass. He rushed for 546 yards last season, including a 174-yard game against BYU. He also threw for 1,247 yards.

Van Pelt won't be Lubick's only talented ground-gainer, however. Cecil Sapp, who was an All-MWC performer in 2000 before sitting out last season to have a tumor in his leg removed, is back, and he showed signs of returning to his old self during spring drills. Also returning are last year's leading rusher, Henri Childs, and Rahsaan Sanders, who has 992 career rushing yards. To make the backfield even more crowded, the Rams signed Tristan Walker, a highly touted prep recruit from Claremont, California.

Colorado State's defense will be anchored by a linebacker corps that returns four players who have been starters for at least a year, led by Eric Pauly, who led the MWC last season with 115 tackles. Other top linebackers returning include Drew Wood, Adam Wade and David Vickers. Dexter Wynn, an all-league defensive back, is also one of the MWC's top return men. He averaged 15.3 yards per punt return and 26.1 yards per kickoff return last season.

Nick Speegle, *New Mexico*

3 New Mexico

After a 2-4 start to the season, things looked, well, normal for the Lobo football program—which is to say things looked bleak. But the Lobos ended the season with a bang, winning four of five games for a 6-5 overall record and a 4-3 league mark that was good enough for a third-place tie with Utah. It was New Mexico's first winning season since 1997, and just its fifth since 1979.

Lobo coach Rocky Long's team has increased its win total every year since his one-win, baptism-by-fire season in 1998. The next step for Long's Lobos, of course, is getting to a bowl game, which certainly seems like an attainable goal in 2002.

Defense has been the key to the success New Mexico has had in recent seasons and that should again be the case despite serious graduation losses. Nose tackle Hebrews Josue is the only full-time starter back on the line, but part-time starters Daniel Kegler and D.J. Renteria are experienced. They will be pushed for playing time by juco transfers Casey Hamilton and Zach Rupp.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Second-team all-leaguer Charles Moss and Nick Speegle, one of the top freshman defenders in the country last season, highlight the linebackers. Two starting safeties (Terrell Golden and David Hall) also return from last year's team that ranked 18th in the nation in total defense, as does cornerback David Crockett.

New Mexico's offense should be improved behind the play of QB Casey Kelly, who went 5-2 as a starter last season. Kelly will have several experienced receivers to throw to, including Dwight Counter (43 catches for 774 yards in '01) and speedster Joe Manning (26 for 482). Three starters and several other experienced players return to the offensive line. The Lobos' biggest concern is at running back, where they have little experience. Senior Quincy Wright will battle redshirt freshmen Dontrell Moore and Tony Frazier for playing time.

4 Utah

Ron McBride's Utes had the most balanced team in the league last season. Utah was solid on both sides of the ball—and particularly strong on defense. The Utes were 13th in the country in scoring defense, giving up an average of only 18.5 points in regular-season games. They were even better in the postseason, surrendering just six points in their Las Vegas Bowl victory over Southern Cal.

The Ute defense should again be outstanding. Eight starters return, including hard-hitting linebacker Sheldon Deckart and all-league defensive linemen Jason Kaufusi and Garrett Smith. Junior safeties Antwoine Sanders and Arnold Parker lead the Ute defensive backfield. Parker may be switched to cornerback this season, the position McBride sees being his future in the NFL.

The Ute offense, meanwhile, picked up plenty of yardage in '01, ranking 24th in the nation by averaging 429 yards per outing. But it often had trouble once it got into the red zone. Much of the blame from Ute boosters for Utah's offensive miscues was placed squarely on the shoulders of QB Lance Rice, who is back for his junior season. While many Ute fans would like to see what Rice's backups (Ryan Breska and Brett Elliott) can do, Rice emerged out of spring drills as the No. 1 QB once again.

The running back tandem of Dameon Hunter and Adam Tate, who combined to rush for 2,215 yards in '01, is gone. Also graduated is leading wide receiver and NFL draft pick Cliff Russell and a pair of all-league offensive linemen.

Rice, who passed for 2,086 yards and 16 TDs, will have wide receiver Josh Lyman (36 catches, 582 yards) to throw to. Beyond that, there is little experience at the skill positions for the Ute offense. A trio of talented (but untested in Division I-A) running backs—Marty Johnson, J.R. Peroulis and incoming JC All-America Brandon Warfield—will be vying for carries. Juco transfers Larry Miles and Lynzell Jackson will see time immediately at the wide receiver positions. The offensive line should again be a team strength with Jordan Gross and Dustin McQuivey.

Garrett Smith, *Utah*

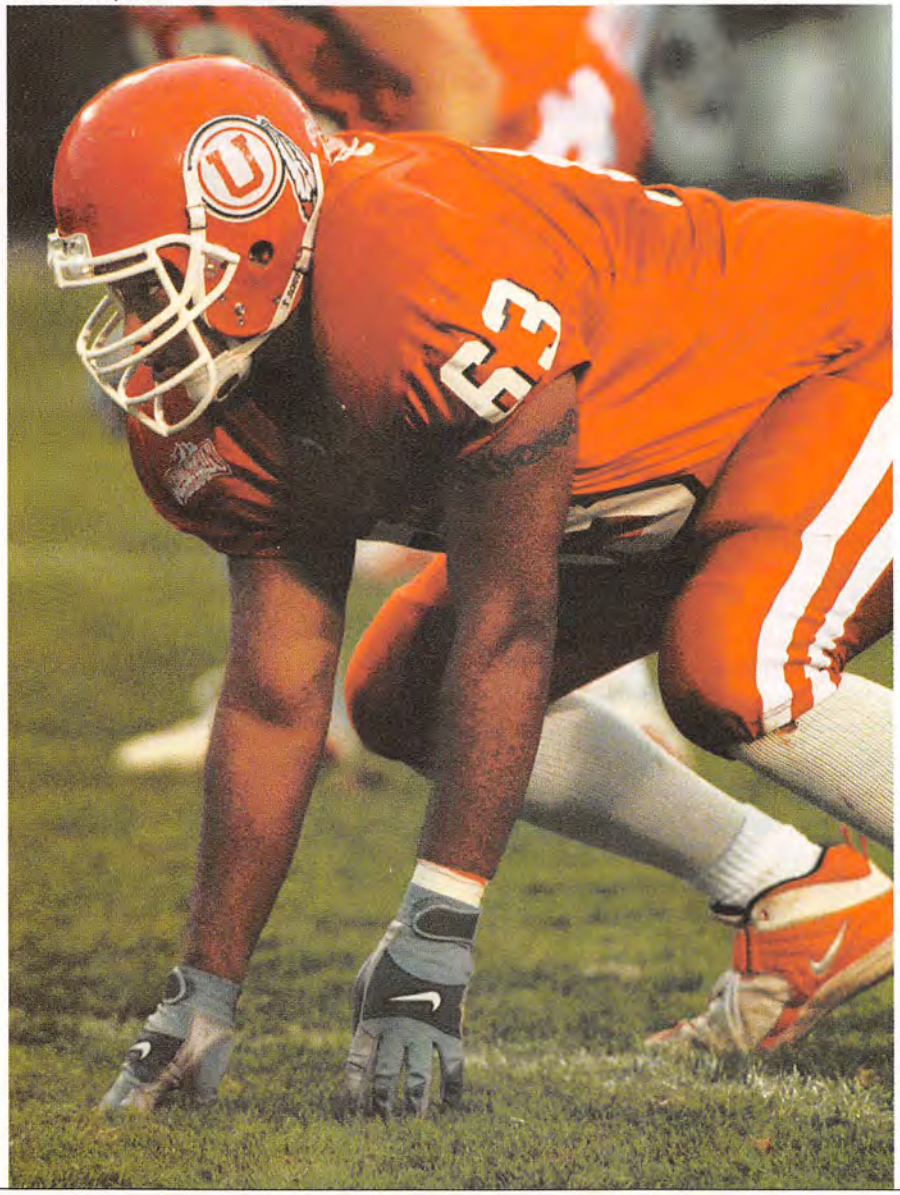


PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

5 UNLV

A year ago Jason Thomas was being touted as a Heisman Trophy candidate. Many were predicting that the UNLV quarterback was going to lead the Rebels to the top of the MWC after leading them to a Las Vegas Bowl victory in 2000.

Instead Thomas—and the rest of the Rebels—struggled to start the year and then never really recovered after going 0-4 out of the gate. Not only had Thomas quickly fallen out of Heisman Trophy contention, but many Rebel fans wanted Thomas benched during the 4-7 season.

"We were reminded last season how small the margin of error is in winning and losing a football game," says veteran UNLV coach John Robinson.

Those doubting Thomas may be in for a shock this season. His surgically repaired shoulder is healthy and he's in better shape than ever before, thanks to a new conditioning program. While he was still effective running the ball last season (481 yards rushing), his passing numbers were down from his sophomore year. Look for Thomas to return to his sophomore form as a senior.

Joe Haro, who gained 1,107 yards last season, returns to head the talented running back corps. Also back is Dominique Dorsey, the MWC

***Jason Thomas,** UNLV*

PAUL JASIENSKI

Freshman of the Year who averaged 6.6 yards per carry. Add to the mix Larry Croom, a former starter at Arizona, and you'll see why Robinson likes his backfield.

The linebackers will be the strength of the defense, led by Ryan Claridge, who had 71 tackles last season, and Adam Seward (60 tackles). Joining them is Tyrone Tucker, a transfer from Iowa State. Jamal Wynn, a starting cornerback from last year, and former Alabama starter Connie Brown, a free safety, will lead the defensive backfield.

UNLV's schedule is strong, but not overwhelming. The Rebels will host Wisconsin, Kansas and Nevada, while traveling to Oregon State and Toledo for non-league battles.

6 Air Force

The Falcons have three goals entering every season: first, win the Commander-in-Chief's trophy; second, win the MWC title; and third, go to a bowl game.

Last year, Air Force reached one of its goals—by beating both Army and Navy to win the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. That may be the best the Falcons can do again this year, as they will have to replace 15 starters from last season's 6-6 club.

AFA, once again, will be turning over the keys of its potent option attack to another driver. Chance Harridge, a backup to senior QB Keith Boyea last season, will take over that crucial position. Harridge finished 2001 with 181 yards rushing on 30 carries.

"I have a lot of confidence in Chance," says Fisher DeBerry, now in his 19th season with the Falcons. "He's demonstrated more leadership on and off the field than any young quarterback we've had here."

That's high praise considering some of the fine option QBs to play at the Academy.

While the Falcons have more holes to fill than most MWC teams, they do return a three-year starter at halfback in Leotis Palmer, who rushed for 516 yards last season, second only to Boyea.

Three linebackers return from last year's defensive squad that ranked second-to-last in the league—outside linebackers Matt McCraney and Monty Coleman and inside linebacker Anthony Schlegel. The defensive backfield has some experience in corners Paul Mayo and Wes Crawley.

The Falcons have a favorable schedule that will see them host seven games—including Notre Dame and Northwestern. Air Force also gets MWC favorites BYU and Colorado State in Falcon Stadium.

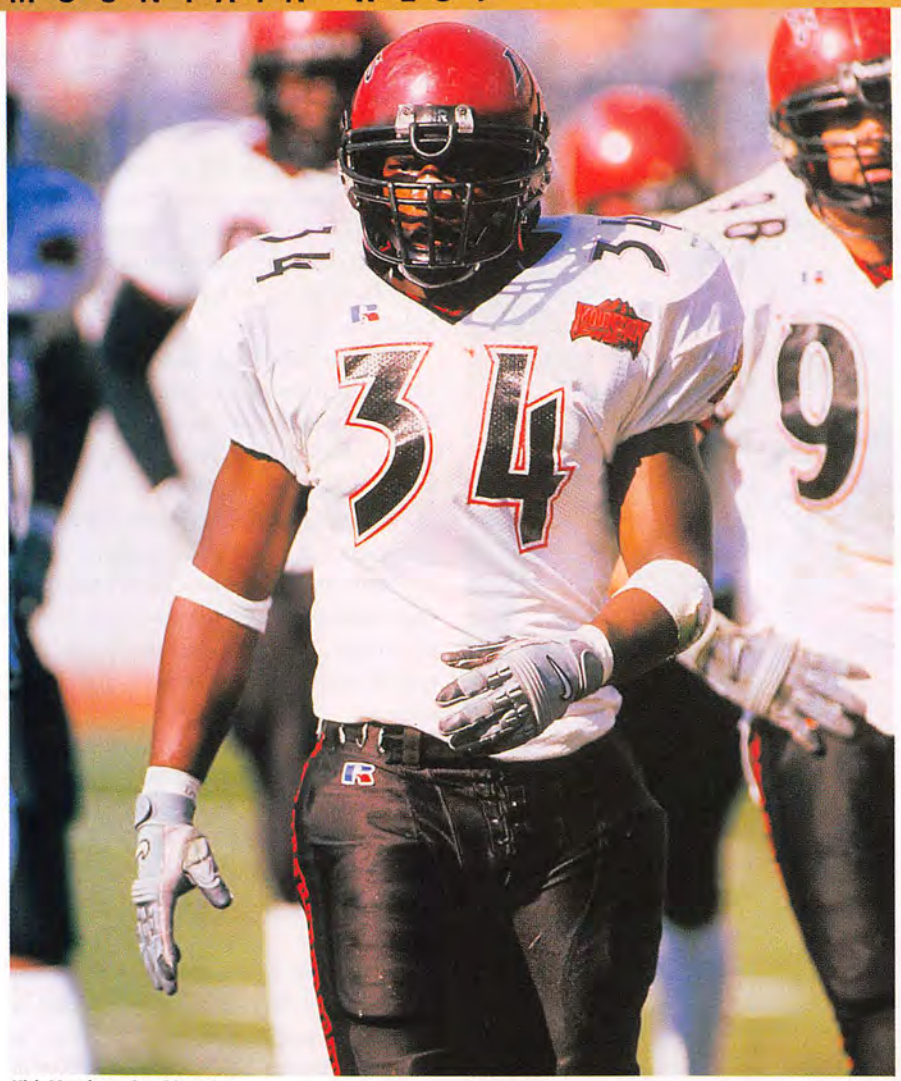
7 San Diego State

Tom Craft, a former San Diego State quarterback, is the only new head coach in the league this year. He comes to SDSU from nearby Palomar Junior College, replacing Ted Tollner, whose clubs suffered through back-to-back 3-8 campaigns.

Craft, who led the Aztecs to a 10-1 record by completing 69 percent of his passes in 1976, is hoping to awaken the MWC's sleeping giant. It won't be easy and it may not be immediate, but Craft vows to have the high-scoring Aztecs back to their winning ways of old.

"It is special to go back to your alma mater where you have real affection and genuine emotional ties," says Craft, who served under Tollner as offensive coordinator at SDSU from 1994-96. "I know what it will take for us to have the kind of program that we all want for San Diego State. We will be successful."

It may be too much to ask, however, for the Aztecs to be successful in 2002. Rebuilding takes



Kirk Morrison, *San Diego State*

time. Not only are there graduated seniors to replace—like star running back Larry Ned and his 1,549 yards rushing and 15 TDs last season—but there are new schemes to implement. The Aztecs will feature a one-back, spread offense that will put the ball into the air often. They will run a no-huddle attack at times.

"We have to be able to throw the football to be successful this season," Craft says. Vying to be the starting QB are senior Lon Sheriff and junior Adam Hall, both of whom have started in the past.

Veteran receiver J.R. Tolver will be back as a prime target, along with a couple of other seniors who are new to the program. Ronnie Davenport is a transfer from California, while Kassim Osgood earned I-AA All-America status at Cal Poly before becoming an Aztec. James Truvillion, who sat out last season with an injury, is at the top of the depth chart at running back.

The defense is led by a defensive line that includes Ryan Iata, Anthony Foli, Amon Arnold and Akbar Gbaja-Biamila, all of whom started at some point during the past two seasons. Kirk Morrison is the top linebacker, but the secondary will be inexperienced.

8 Wyoming

Coach Vic Koenning has been through the Mountain West wars two times already—and has yet to win a league game. That doesn't sit well on the Wyoming plains, where the Cowboys were annually one of the top teams in the old WAC of the not-so-distant past.

The cupboard is not completely bare for the 'Pokes, however. There is hope that their league losing streak will come to an end. Wyoming returns the top QB in the league—at least in terms of yardage produced—in junior Casey Bramlett. Bramlett averaged 279 yards passing per game last season, but he threw only nine TDs with 20 interceptions. His numbers are also a bit deceiving since many of his yards came after the Cowboys had fallen well behind and needed to score in a hurry to have any chance to get back into the game.

Bramlett does have one of the league's best receivers to throw to. Sure-handed Ryan McGuffey, only a junior, led the league last season, averaging 7.2 receptions per game. The Cowboys' other top four receivers return as well, meaning the people responsible for 216 of a total of 228 catches last season return. Also back is all-league offensive lineman Adam Goldberg. New junior college running back Reymon Murphy (San Jose Community College) will be vying for immediate playing time.

The Wyoming defense has been particularly troubling the past couple of seasons. The Cowboys ranked last in the league in total defense (surrendering 465 yards per game) and scoring defense (giving up an average of 33.5 points) a year ago. Wyoming's top returning defender is Guy Tuell, an honorable-mention all-league defensive back last season.

Trying for some immediate help in the defensive backfield, Koenning signed four junior college secondary stars as well as a juco linebacker, Ryan Zodda.

Wyoming's kicking game is strong with the return of punter Luke Donovan and placekicker Jarvis Wallum, who booted five field goals in a non-league win over Utah State last year. ■

Ryan McGuffey, *Wyoming*

LEFT TO RIGHT: ROBERT LEITER, PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Herd will ride again over expanding league that now stretches to Central Florida.

BY STAN SUTTON
BLOOMINGTON HERALD-TIMES

The addition of Central Florida as a member of the East Division gives the Mid-American a new look this year, shifting Bowling Green to the West Division for a 14-team format.

The Golden Knights have competed as an independent since the program began in 1979 at the Division II level. They made the move to I-AA in 1990 before becoming a Division I in 1996. UCF has a 10-4 record against teams from the MAC since moving to Division I.

The Mid-American placed two teams in the final Top 25 for the first time ever last season. The *USA Today/ESPN* poll listed Marshall No. 21 and Toledo No. 22 in its final count.

Toledo won its first MAC Championship Game in three tries with a 41-36 triumph over Marshall. The Rockets trailed 23-0 in the first half but were revived by NFL draft pick Chester Taylor's 188 rushing yards.

Marshall's Byron Leftwich threw for 421 yards in that game and returns this season as the top offensive force in the Mid-American and an outside contender for the Heisman.

Toledo went 10-2 in Tom Amstutz's first season as head coach. He had played for the Rockets and was an assistant coach there 21 years.

The strength of the MAC became evident last year when two conference teams competed in bowl games for the first time in the league's 56-year history.

EAST DIVISION

1 Marshall

The Thundering Herd was supposed to be undergoing a youth movement last season, but that didn't keep Marshall from going unbeaten in the MAC and posting an 11-2 record.

That earned coach Bob Pruett's team its fifth successive bowl appearance and a 64-61 victory over East Carolina in the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Alabama.

As the bowl's score suggests, Marshall needs to shore up its defense, but Pruett has a cupboard full of players who were redshirted last season because of injuries or suspensions.

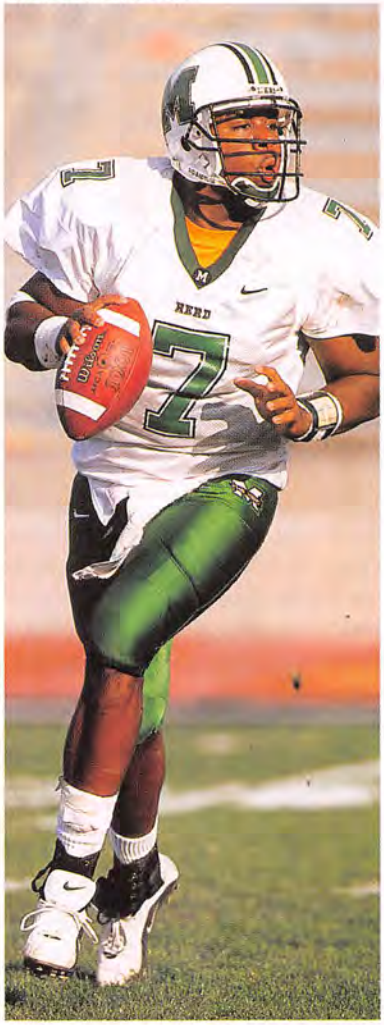
The offense lost only two starters and keeps quarterback Byron Leftwich, who has thrown for 7,635 yards in his career. Receivers Darius Watts, Josh Davis and Denero Marriott are outstanding, and accounted for 226 catches and 32 touchdowns last season. They combined for more than 3,000 yards receiving in 2001.

Georgia transfer Jason Radder and Eddie Smolder are the tight ends, and Chanston Rodgers has returned from ACL surgery to play tailback. Franklin Wallace also returns after rushing for 796 yards and nine touchdowns.

The Herd's offensive line lost only one of its top 10 from last year. Tackles Steve Sciullo and Nate McPeek and guard Steve Perretta were All-MAC selections. Center Jeff Edwards is cut from the same cloth but missed time because of a neck injury.

Marshall ranked 106th nationally against the rush, and the line has only Orlando Washington returning. With two starts, Duran Smith is the most experienced linebacker, and former cornerback Terrance Tarpley has been moved to the whip linebacker spot. The corners will be Roberto Terrell and Yancey Satterwhite.

***Byron Leftwich,** Marshall*



Predictions

EAST DIVISION

1. Marshall
2. Miami
3. Central Florida
4. Akron
5. Kent State
6. Buffalo
7. Ohio

WEST DIVISION

1. Toledo
2. Bowling Green
3. Western Michigan
4. Ball State
5. Northern Illinois
6. Central Michigan
7. Eastern Michigan

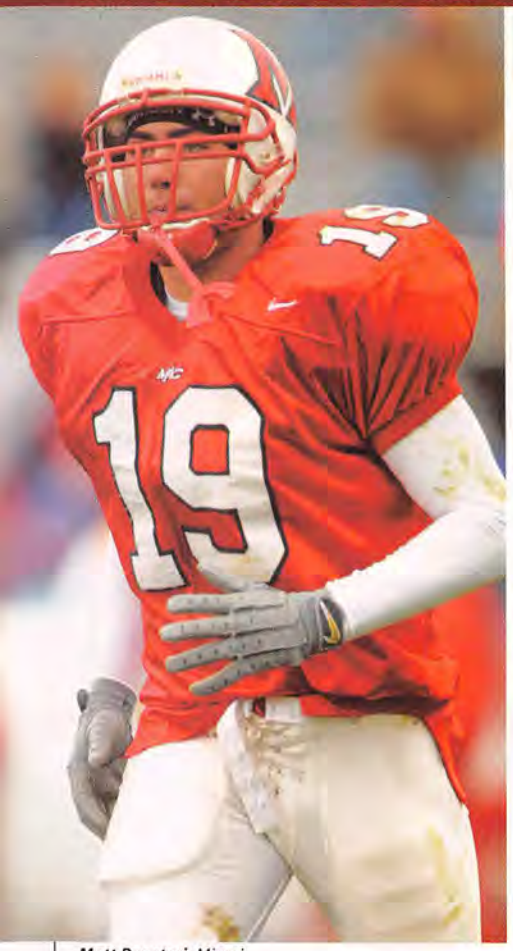
Top players

OFFENSE: Byron Leftwich, QB, Marshall
DEFENSE: Anthony Allsbury, DE, Western Michigan
NEWCOMER: Elton Patterson, DE, Central Florida

Games to watch

Marshall at Virginia Tech, September 12
Miami at Marshall, November 12
Toledo at Western Michigan, November 16
Toledo at Bowling Green, November 23

BRUCE L. SCHWARTZMAN



Matt Pusateri, Miami

2 Miami

The RedHawks posted seven straight victories at midseason but lost their final three to finish 7-5. They will be led by quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who completed 63 percent of his throws for 3,105 yards and 25 touchdowns last year.

Roethlisberger completed 40 of 53 passes for 452 yards against Hawaii and threw for five touchdowns against Ohio. He has a bevy of receivers returning, including Jason Branch (46 catches), Eddie Tillitz (43) and Mike Larkin (37).

The top rushers are Luke Clemens, who gained 483 yards, and Cal Murray, who averaged 7.3 yards over 47 carries. Returning to the offensive line are Ben Herrell, Frank Smith and Justin Smith.

Miami keeps seven starters on defense, including linemen Phil Smith and Ryan Terry. Terrell Jones is back at middle linebacker and Nathan Clayton and Matt Robillard are veteran outside backers. The secondary still has cornerback Milt Bowen and strong safety Matt Pusateri. Jones was in on 124 tackles, two more than Pusateri. Robillard had 109 stops, including 13 tackles for loss and five sacks.

3 Central Florida

The Golden Knights posted a 6-5 record in their final season as an independent and will tackle their new challenge with eight starters returning on offense and three on defense. Coach Mike Kruczek's biggest concern is retooling a defense that was ranked 16th in the country.

The UCF defense features end Elton Patterson, who had 21 tackles for loss and nine sacks. His running mate, Rashad Jeanty, was in on eight tackles for loss and four sacks. Other veterans include tackle Larry Brown, cornerback Asante Samuel and safety Atari Bigby.

Bill D'Ottavio takes over as defensive coordinator in place of Gene Chizik, who became coordinator at Auburn.

The offense still has wide receivers Jimmy Fryzell and Doug Gabriel, who combined for 61 catches and 11 touchdowns. Tailback Alex Haynes ran for 690 yards and nine scores as a sophomore, while quarterback Ryan Schneider completed 204 of 357 passes for 2,923 yards and 17 touchdowns last season.

UCF's schedule may be the toughest in the MAC, with road games at Penn State and Arizona State and a home date against Syracuse.

4 Akron

The Zips suffered six season-ending injuries to members of the first and second units, contributing to a 4-7 record last season. Eighth-year coach Lee Owens foresees better luck and a better team.

Akron keeps only four starters on offense and six on defense. Charlie Frye is back at quarterback after a stellar freshman season. Also returning is his favorite target, Matt Cherry, who caught 48 passes for 630 yards and also is a dangerous punt returner.

Others back on offense are running back Brandon Payne, who is mending after knee surgery but has the potential to be one of the best backs in the MAC, and lineman Aaron Conley.

Junior running back Bob Hendry rushed for 819 yards last season, and he'll get help from Minnesota transfer Marcus Sanders.

Joe Tresey has taken over as defensive coordinator and retains linemen Marques Hayes, Ryan Schulz and Ryan Gargasz, plus linebacker Ryan Myers (team-leading 77 tackles) and defensive backs John Fuller and Rickey McKenzie. Dwayne LeFall, who sat out last season, should help the pass rush.

5 Kent State

The Golden Flashes tied for fourth in the East Division while posting a 6-5 record for fifth-year coach Dean Pees. A rough 2002 schedule includes a visit to Ohio State for the first-ever meeting between the two Ohio schools.

Kent State won five of its final six games in 2001, beating Miami of Ohio, Ball State, Ohio, Buffalo and Northern Illinois during that run and averaging 32 points for the five wins. It was Kent's first winning season since 1987.

The Golden Flashes received 1,019 rushing yards out of freshman quarterback Joshua Cribbs, who averaged 6.2 yards a carry. Cribbs also completed 55 percent of his passes for 1,516 yards and threw only five interceptions among 238 passes. Running back David Alston ran for 633 yards and averaged 5.3 yards a carry as a sophomore.

Defensively, the Flashes led the Mid-American in pass-efficiency defense.

Kent must replace Brian Hallett, an all-conference offensive linemen, and outside linebacker James Harrison, also an All-MAC selection in 2001.

6 Buffalo

Buffalo made significant strides under first-year coach Jim Hofher last season, including an end to the Bulls' 18-game losing streak. That came against Connecticut, a team that had beaten Buffalo five straight times.

The Bulls also posted their first shutout in the MAC, a 44-0 belting of Ohio, which had outscored Buffalo 137-26 in their three previous meetings. Then there was a 26-19 victory over Army when Buffalo was a three-touchdown underdog.

With some confidence under their belts, the Bulls hope to reach new standards. Hofher keeps 15 starters, including nine on offense. Those include four offensive linemen and tight end Chad Bartoszek, the Bulls' leading receiver.

The veteran linemen are Andy Avery, Eric Weber, Erik Zeppuhar and Jeff Mills. The tight end position is deep because Marvin Brereton received a sixth year of eligibility after missing last year with a knee injury.

The quarterback stakes may not be settled until fall. Randall Seeky is coming back from elbow surgery and competing with redshirt freshman P.J. Piskorik. Andre Forde is the most experienced wide receiver and Marquis Dwarte is set at running back.

Buffalo lost four starters from the defensive line, but its coaches see potential in Anthony

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMI

Andriano, who had six tackles for loss as a freshman. The linebacker corps also was depleted but keeps Lamar Wilcher.

The secondary should be Buffalo's strongest position, with Mike Lambert, Mark Graham and J.J. Gibson back as starters.

7 Ohio

The Bobcats experienced a disappointing 1-10 season despite having 17 starters returning from the previous year, when they went 7-4.

Many of the problems related to a porous defense, so former coordinator Tim DeRuyter was brought back to straighten out the unit.

Ohio went into the spring with the quarterback position unsettled. Dontrell Jackson, an option specialist, was injured in midseason and backup Freddie Ray stepped in. Ray can run the option but is more of a pure passer than Jackson.

The Bobcats also retain Chad Brinker, who missed much of last season but is Ohio's most versatile back. He averaged 98 yards rushing during his four games.

Ohio throws sparingly, as Joe Mohler led the team with 21 catches. Veterans in the offensive line are tackles Dennis Thompson and Chris Jackson and center Doug Wooten.

The secondary has some strength with Joe Sellers and Bop White, who has 11 career interceptions. Ohio State transfer Rob Stover could play in the backfield or at linebacker. The line keeps Lamar Martin, but he'll be surrounded by young players. Demetri Taylor has the most experience at linebacker.

A big loss was Dave Zastudil, who led the MAC in punting four years. Kevin Kerr, a four-year placekicker, may punt as well.

WEST DIVISION

1 Toledo

The Rockets have some holes to fill but claim a strong senior class to build around. Toledo's all-everything tailback, Chester Taylor, is gone, but Webster Jackson, Adam Cuomo and Trinity Dawson are viewed as solid, if not spectacular, successors.

The quarterback position is also open and could be a three-way race between senior Brian Jones, redshirt freshman Bruce Gradkowski and junior college transfer Cedric Stevens.

A veteran offensive line is led by tackle Nick Kaczur. Donta Greene caught 62 passes last season and Carl Ford, a breakaway threat, grabbed 46. Chris Holmes and Andrew Clarke share the tight end spot.

Much is expected from defensive end Frank Ofili, who'll be paired up front with Chaz Williams and Don Gaines. The inside linebackers are set with Tom Ward and David Gardner, but the outside linebackers will be new.

Four-year starter Andy Boyd left a void in the secondary, but Jehu Anderson and Brandon Hefflin are experienced. Demetris Simms probably will be Boyd's replacement.

Placekicker Todd France will be missed after setting numerous school records and kicking a 55-yarder in 2001.

2 Bowling Green

First-year coach Urban Meyer was named MAC Coach of the Year after the Falcons won eight games and led the conference in total defense, rushing defense, turnover margin, fumbles recovered and interceptions. Bowling Green was fourth nationally against the rush and third in turnover margin.

On offense, the key returnee is quarterback Andy Sahm, who has a career completion percentage of .575. All-MAC wide receiver Robert Redd was Sahm's favorite target with 72 receptions. Cole Magner and James Hawkins will supplement the receiving corps.

The running game features seniors Joe Alls and Godfrey Lewis.

The Falcons have a veteran offensive line led by center Jon Mazur, tackle Dennis Wendel and guard Greg Kupke.

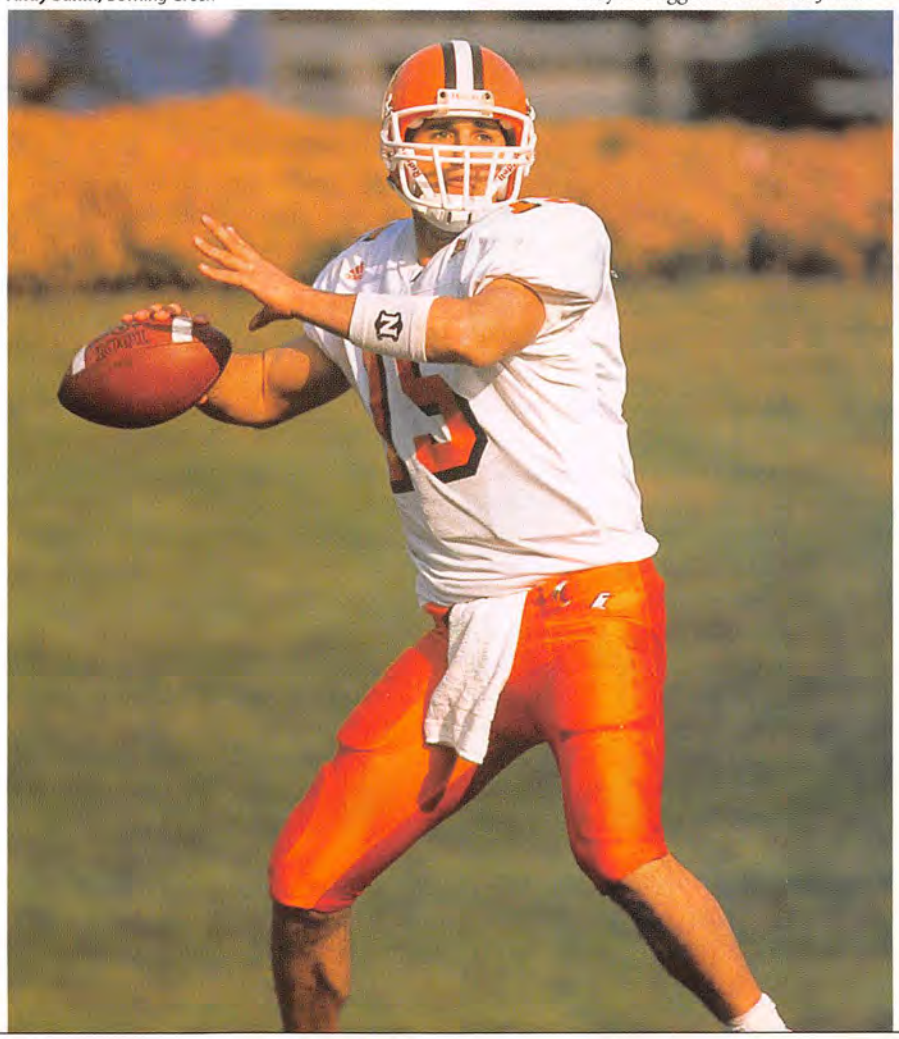
Bowling Green had 18 interceptions last season, with Janssen Patton running his career total to eight. Keon Newson will be the other cornerback. Senior Jerry Wagner is the likely free safety.

Tackle Alex Glantzis is the lone returnee in the line, but former starter D.J. Owchar will be at nose guard. Chad Haneline is the most experienced linebacker.

3 Western Michigan

The first order of business for coach Gary Darnell is replacing quarterback Jeff Welsh, who became Western Michigan's fourth-leading all-time passer with 4,849 yards. Junior Jon Drach looms as the starter, but may be pushed by redshirt freshmen Blayne Baggett and Mitch John.

Andy Sahm, *Bowling Green*



CHUCK RYDLEWSKI

Justin Beriault, *Ball State*

The Broncos are led defensively by Anthony Allsbury, a two-time All-MAC end. He'll work in the line with Chris Browning and Jason Babin, who combined for 12 sacks last season. Linebacker Bryan Lape tied a school record with six forced fumbles and led the Broncos with 122 tackles. Jason Malloy joins him at linebacker.

Another All-MAC player, Jermaine Lewis, has been moved from safety to wide receiver, which leaves Jason Feldpausch as the lone veteran in the secondary. Running backs Charles Woods and Philip Reed fought off various ailments in 2001 but combined for 905 rushing yards. The offensive line features Kevin Kramer and Jake Gasaway, but three spots are open for newcomers.

Western Michigan has depth at receiver with Kendrick Mosley, Brandon Johnson and Antonio Thomas. Mobolaji Afariogun is one of the best tight ends in the MAC.

"I think we will have one of the premier receiving corps in the league," Darnell says.

4 Ball State

The Cardinals are led by tailback Marcus Merriweather, who rushed for 1,244 yards and 12 touchdowns last season. He is only the second back at Ball State to rush for more than 1,000 yards in successive seasons.

Merriweather will be aided by four returning offensive linemen—Kris Berry, David Miller, Colin Johnson and Travis Barclay. Talmadge Hill has started the past 18 games at quarterback and his favorite targets include tight ends Jon Eckert and Tim Streit. Sean Schmebra is a fixture at wide receiver.

Defensively, Ball State still has its two leading tacklers, linebackers Lorenzo Scott and Justin Beriault, and also keeps cornerbacks Jesse Avant and Steve Monson and tackle Greg Pagnar.

"We have all these young players on defense and we are not sure who will line up where yet," coach Billy Lynch says.

Scott has led the Cardinals in tackling each of the past two seasons. Last year he had 124 stops, including 13 tackles for loss and three sacks.

The Cards' 5-6 record in 2001 included losses to two SEC schools, Auburn and Kentucky.

5 Northern Illinois

The Huskies went 6-5 while finishing in a three-way tie for the West Division title last season. The tough schedule included a 17-12 loss to Illinois and a 38-35 loss to Wake Forest.

Coach Joe Novak keeps offensive linemen Tim Vincent, Mark Orszula, Shaun Schroeder and Todd Ghilani along with tight end Matt Dunker. Thomas Hammock, who ran for 1,096 yards, is established at tailback, and P.J. Fleck returns after catching 59 passes as a wideout.

The Huskies will have to replace quarterback Chris Finlen, who threw for 2,036 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Returning defensive starters are end Travis Moore, tackle Anthony Falbo and nose tackle Eric Didesch. Larry Williams and Nick Duffy are established linebackers who combined for six sacks and 21 tackles for loss in 2001. Duffy was in on 125 tackles, Williams 123.

Strong safety Akil Grant was the Huskies' third-leading tackler with 114 stops. Free safety Lionel Hickenbottom will work alongside Grant.

Northern Illinois lost two starters on defense—linebacker Ryan Laurenti and end Trent Clemen. Voids were left on offense by the departure of flanker Darrell Hill, tight end Joe Reed, guard John Pedersen and Finlen.

6 Central Michigan

Chippewas coach Mike DeBord enters his fourth season with 41 lettermen, including nine returning starters on both offense and defense.

Derek Gorney returns for his senior season at quarterback and keeps Rob Turner, Rod Means and Willie Hill as wideouts. Tory Humphrey is set at tight end and Terrence Jackson, a 230-pounder, is established at tailback.

The offensive line still has tackle Adam Kieft and guards Kyle Croskey and Derek McLaughlin. The principal losses on offense were tackle Matt Brayton and center Anders Hill.

A veteran defensive crew retains ends Cullen Jenkins and Matt Reynolds, tackle Marvin Smith, linebackers Darvin Lewis and Ed Hillery and defensive backs Ron Bartellman and Rodrico Epps.

The Chippewas, who went 3-8 in 2001, will miss middle guard Josh Skeel and cornerback Tedaro France.

7 Eastern Michigan

Jeff Woodruff's rebuilding program enters its third season following a 2-9 campaign, but he believes two good recruiting classes have put the program on firm footing.

"We've had 94 percent of our players record personal bests in the weight room and 58 percent of them have increased their speed," Woodruff says.

The Eagles return five starters on offense, including quarterback Kainoa Akina, who completed 140 of 267 passes as a true freshman. He also was the team's second-leading rusher. Tailback Chris R. Roberson also ran 755 yards as a freshman and will be supported by Ime Akpan.

Kevin Walter leads the receivers after making 62 catches in 2001, but the offensive line has only two returning regulars in tight end Kevin Zureki and guard Dan Davis.

The loss of linebackers Scott Russell and Kenny Philpot, both four-year starters, leaves a big void. The defensive line retains Matt Kudu, Jari Brown and Chris J. Roberson. The defensive backfield still has senior cornerback Erick Middleton and sophomores Michael Woods and Jerry Gaines, who were rushed into the lineup by necessity last year.

Eastern Michigan will play a 12-game schedule that includes dates at Michigan State and Maryland. ■

PHOTO COURTESY OF BALL STATE

MTSU hopes to survive 'growing pains' on way to title.

BY TOMMY HICKS
MOBILE REGISTER

As the Sun Belt Conference heads into its second season of football competition, it does so having taken small steps in its first year and looking to take bigger ones.

Middle Tennessee opened last season by defeating Southeastern Conference member Vanderbilt 37-28 on the road, and the league played in its first postseason game, the New Orleans Bowl.

There's also the bad news. Only one team (Middle Tennessee) finished the season with a winning record, but unfortunately it wasn't the league representative in the New Orleans Bowl. That honor went to North Texas (5-7), based on tie-breakers. North Texas then was crushed by Colorado State 45-20 at the Superdome.

Still, the league pushes forward, having signed Conference USA to a multi-year contract to face its champion in the New Orleans Bowl beginning this year. Running back Dwone Hicks of Middle Tennessee has received some national attention for his play, and the bowl game received a good TV rating.

Middle Tennessee opens the season as the team to beat again, with North Texas, returning several starters, expected to contend as well. Louisiana-Lafayette should also be an improved team.

Once again, non-conference scheduling will find Sun Belt teams playing at some tough venues. Arkansas State opens at Virginia Tech, with other stops at Illinois and Ole Miss. Idaho visits Oregon and Washington. Lafayette will play at LSU and Texas A&M. Louisiana-Monroe is at Ole Miss, Kansas State and Auburn. Middle Tennessee plays at Alabama and Tennessee. New Mexico State travels to Georgia and South Carolina. North Texas tangles at Texas, Alabama, TCU and Arizona.

Call them "growing pains."

1 Middle Tennessee

The Blue Raiders did almost everything right last season. Almost. The one big slip they made—losing to North Texas on the road by three points—was costly, for the Blue Raiders and the Sun Belt. It led to North Texas and Middle Tennessee sharing the Sun Belt championship and 5-6 North Texas, not the 8-3 Blue Raiders, receiving the league's berth in the New Orleans Bowl.

MTSU has plenty of incentive this season, not to mention plenty of talent. Dwone Hicks, the league's best running back, is one of eight returning offensive starters, and the school has already embarked on a Heisman Trophy campaign for the 5-foot-11, 225-pound senior. Hicks collected 1,143 yards and 20 touchdowns a year ago.

Helping Hicks' Heisman campaign will be an offensive line that returns intact—Brandon Westbrook, David Coy, Glen Elarbee, Kevin Pascoe, Julius Gant and tight end Lucas Frost. The biggest change will be at quarterback, where Andrico Hines takes over for Wes Counts. Hines has speed and the ability to run—added qualities for the attack—but also possesses what one Blue Raider calls a "cannon for an arm." He'll get the chance to test that arm with a strong complement of wide receivers, seven of the top nine from a year ago.

The defense will be important, especially the play of the secondary, which is the area of most concern with this team. In 1999, MTSU ranked No. 108 in the country in total defense. Last year it was No. 73. The group uses a 3-3-stack alignment.

Shawn Allen will be at one cornerback spot and juco transfers Tony Sutton and Aaron Pitts are expected to help right away. Up front, Samuel Smith, Jerry Vanderpool and Curtis Daniely lead the way. The linebackers are Sheldon Durham, Randy Arnold and Blake Morris.

MTSU's schedule is a tough one, featuring four SEC teams. The season begins in Birmingham against Alabama and then moves on to Tennessee. A trip to Kentucky follows and later a trip to Vanderbilt. The rematch with North Texas is at home November 23.

2 North Texas

While Middle Tennessee is getting lots of attention, the Mean Green is sending a message that it lost only one Sun Belt game last year, too. Granted, it was to Louisiana-Monroe, a team that finished next to last in the league, but it was the only conference loss. And while the Mean Green lost its first five games of the year, it did win the next five before losing its final two.

All 11 offensive starters are back this year to go along with nine on defense. The returnees include quarterback Scott Hall, who threw for 1,453 yards; running backs Kevin Galbreath (1,119 rushing yards) and Patrick Cobbs (399); tight end Jeff Muenchow and wide receivers George Marshall and Kevin Howard. The Mean Green concentrated mainly on developing depth this spring.

Defensively, all-conference pick Brad Kassell will be missed at linebacker, but there are replacements at the ready. Returning starter Cody Spencer will likely move to the inside spot that Kassell held, with Taylor Casey and Chris Hurd filling outside roles. Brandon Kennedy, Chris McIver, Adrian Awasom and Darrell Daniels will serve up front. The secondary will find Jonas Buckles, Craig Jones, Walter Priestley and Don McGee in the starting spots.

Predictions

1. **Middle Tennessee**
2. **North Texas**
3. **Louisiana-Lafayette**
4. **New Mexico State**
5. **Arkansas State**
6. **Louisiana-Monroe**
7. **Idaho**

Top players

OFFENSE: Dwone Hicks, RB, Middle Tennessee
DEFENSE: Charles Tillman, DB, Louisiana-Lafayette
NEWCOMER: Lamar Lee, DB, Arkansas State

Games to watch

Middle Tennessee at Alabama, August 31
Louisiana-Lafayette at LSU, October 5
North Texas at Louisiana-Lafayette, October 26
North Texas at Middle Tennessee, November 23

Jeff Muenchow, *North Texas*

The Mean Green faces Texas in the opener and will later play at Alabama, TCU and Arizona.

3 Louisiana-Lafayette

The Ragin' Cajuns are another interesting team that could make some positive things happen this season. They have 10 offensive starters back from last year's 3-8 team, with six returning on defense. Still, there are some changes with this team, especially on offense. Hopes are that the changes will add some spark to the attack.

Last season, Lafayette tried to spread the field by employing a lot of four- and five-receiver sets. This year, that approach will be abandoned for the most part. New coach Rickey Bustle, the former offensive coordinator at Virginia Tech who recruited and coached Michael Vick, is determined to shake things up. In fact, he is determined the school will have its first-ever 1,000-yard running back. A couple of Ragin' Cajun quarterbacks have rushed for more than 1,000 yards in a season before, but never a running back. That should set the stage for Jerome Coleman, who picked up 625 yards last season in 10 games. Dontrell Davis could help there, too.

Also new: a tight end. The Cajuns rarely used one last year. Josh Joerg (just six catches for 44 yards all last season) will be the starter. Another twist: a fullback. Former tight end Blake Bourque will man that position. There's still a bevy of wide receivers left over to throw to, including Andre George, Fred Stamps, B.J. Crist and Nick Dugas. Jon Van Cleave, who passed for almost 2,500 yards and 14 touchdowns last season, will be the quarterback.

Changes await the defense, too. Five starters are gone from a year ago; two ended up in the NFL. The other big change is in alignment, with the Cajuns set to unveil an eight-man front in an effort to stuff the opponents' running game. That's going to put a lot of expectations on the defensive front, but the unit's best players are linebacker Ross Brupbacher and cornerback Charles Tillman.

Lafayette will play Texas A&M and Minnesota to open the season, with an October 5 trip planned to LSU.

4 New Mexico State

The Aggies didn't just lose their entire starting offensive backfield from a year ago, they lost more than 3,000 yards of production. That will be tough to replace, yet the biggest concern is on the other side of the football at linebacker.

This is a team that finished 5-7 a year ago, losing a one-point game to Louisville in the John Thompson Foundation Classic to start the season, then losing the next three, winning the three after that, then two losses, two wins and a loss. Does that mean the Aggies are set to begin a winning streak again? Probably not. They open the season at South Carolina, followed by games against California, New Mexico, Georgia and Texas-El Paso.

Offensively, the strength is up front. The line features three returning starters in tackles Shalimar Jackson and Steve Mascorro and center B.J. Van Briesen. P.J. Winston leads the receiving corps. He was the team's top receiver last year with 46 catches for 570 yards but just one touchdown. The Aggies threw for just seven scores a year ago. Walter Taylor is expected be a big factor at I-back, but his eligibility status coming out of the spring was up in the air. Eric Higgins and Tony Irions are solid players and are listed behind Taylor.

The Nebraska power-I set used by the Aggies favors the play of quarterback Buck Pierce, who played in 10 games last season, rushing for 75 yards on his first run of the year against Louisville. He is replacing three-year starter K.C. Enzminger. Paul Dombrowski is the backup. Marcus Dixon will start at fullback.

At linebacker, New Mexico State lost a four-year starter, two-year starter and one-year starter and will replace them from a group that includes three freshmen and four sophomores.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Simon Ocampo, Travis Jones and Tim Patrick are the likely starters. Up front, where there will be great expectations to put more pressure on the quarterback, Tommy Laborin, Jeremy Barth, Joe Olivo and Greg Scaffidi lead the way. Siddeeq Shabazz is the leader of the secondary and one of the better players in the league.

5 Arkansas State

New coach Steve Roberts has his work cut out for him replacing Joe Hollis. He is being asked to turn around the fortunes of a team that was 2-9 last season, a team that lost its first four games of the year as well as its final four. The schedule won't help, with stops at Virginia Tech, Illinois and Ole Miss.

Several starters return, with nine back on offense and eight on defense. What won't be back are the alignments of a year ago. Roberts is using more conventional setups on offense and switching from the 3-4 on defense to a 4-2-5.

Josh Driscoll leads the quarterback race. Elliot Jacobs is also in the race at a position in which four different players started last season. The quarterback will find something new: a fullback. Last year, a spread offense dictated the Indians rarely made use of one, going with a single-back set instead. Driscoll will be joined in the backfield by fullbacks Beau Shrable or Shane Tolleson and tailbacks Danny Smith or Tracey Whitaker. Garry Johnson, one of the top linemen in the league, leads the way up front.

Only five defensive linemen were in spring drills, led by John Bradley, who had a dominant spring. Alex Peoples leads the secondary. Lamar Lee, a former juco quarterback, has earned a lot of attention in the defensive backfield.

6 Louisiana-Monroe

Here's another Sun Belt team that has lots of returning starters coming back (in the case of the Indians, 10 on defense, nine on offense), but they are starters from a team that struggled greatly last season. Monroe finished the year 2-9, losing eight of its first nine games. Its big win, of course, was a 19-17 decision over North Texas, which shared the league crown with MTSU and went to the New Orleans Bowl.

And yet with all those returning starters, there is this tidbit: no quarterback on the Indians' roster has taken a single snap in a Division I-A college game. The starter will be Adam Gatlin. There are just 13 players in the Indians' senior class.

Brandon Kania, *Idaho*

Bryant Jacobs leads the way at running back, with Keith Thomas set to help there. Ivory Brown will be the starting fullback. At wide receiver, Mack Vincent, Sean Brown, Brooks Greer and Brandon Hebert will get most of the attention. The Indians have their third offensive coordinator in three years, Tommy Condell, and he is going to have Monroe run the ball more.

The most talented area of the Monroe team is the defensive line. That group, which will have to adjust to a new 4-2-5 alignment, is led by John Thompson, Corey Conde, Jamond Mason-Taylor and Maynard Johnny. Maurice Sonnier, perhaps the best player on the team, will lead the linebacker corps.

The schedule isn't going to be favorable for a big turnaround. The Indians open at Ole Miss, followed by a trip to Kansas State. Other opponents include Tulane and Auburn.

7 Idaho

There's a simple plan for the Vandals: improve. The team that posted a 1-10 record last year, allowing at least 33 points in every game, has won just six games in the past two seasons. There is some talent here, but what has been missing is consistency.

Offensively, the Vandals will be led by quarterback Brian Lindgren, who filled in for injured starter John Welsh last season, playing in 10 games and passing for 1,611 yards and 10 touchdowns. In his second start, he set an NCAA record for most yards of total offense (657) by a sophomore and set four school records. He'll be counted on heavily this season to push the Vandals' offense.

There's a new defensive coordinator, Ed Lamb, and he is making some changes to the Vandals' setup. The strength of the team will be found up front, where Brandon Kania and Brian Howard lead the way. The secondary is expected to be stronger, especially when some juco transfers find their way to campus. Idaho signed 26 players for its incoming class. J.R. Ruffin, Robert Ortega and Kelly Nead are among the incoming defensive backs expected to help. Sergio Robleto and Jordan Kramer are returning starters in the secondary.

The biggest keys for the Vandals will be limiting the success of their opponents on the ground. Idaho was outrushed 2,203 yards to 1,287 last season. That difference also led to 31 rushing touchdowns for the opposition, compared to just 14 for the Vandals.

As is the case with other Sun Belt teams, the schedule for Idaho is a difficult one. The Vandals will travel to Washington State, Washington and Oregon and entertain San Diego State in their non-conference games. ■

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Willingham steps into South Bend pressure-cooker promising to deliver.

BY AL LESAR
SOUTH BEND (IN) TRIBUNE

Notre Dame

When Tyrone Willingham took over as Notre Dame's head football coach on January 1, he promised that the complete focus of the program would be on winning.

Those weren't empty words.

Willingham has the experience of seven years as the boss at Stanford to back up the commitment he made with the Irish. That experience—and the confidence of a system that has been successful—may be among the biggest differences fans sense about the new regime.

There's more of a feeling of security around the Irish program now than there ever was at any time during the tenure of former coach Bob Davie.

"As I understand the Notre Dame tradition, the focus is: win," Willingham says. "So my offense is about winning. My defense is about winning. Everything that we do is about winning—winning on the field, in the classroom and in terms of a young man's social and spiritual development."

The Irish should have enough players back to be competitive against a schedule that includes a Kickoff Classic date with Maryland, a Bowl Championship Series team; home games with Purdue, Michigan and Willingham's former Stanford team; as well as trips to Michigan State, Florida State and Southern California.

The first order of business will be to find a quarterback to run offensive coordinator Bill Diedrick's West Coast attack. Gone is the option offense that Matt LoVecchio ran two years ago and Carlyle Holiday directed through a 5-6 season in 2001. Those two juniors, along with classmate Jared Clark and incoming freshman Chris Olsen, will battle for the job.

"I'm not worried about Maryland; I'm not worried about Purdue; I'm not worried about Michigan; I'm not worried about Michigan State," says Diedrick, who was with Willingham the last four years at Stanford. "That all will come. What I'm worried about is the Irish. If we can become a consistent, efficient offense, then it really doesn't matter who you play."

Consistency will have to come from guys like senior tailback Julius Jones, who has been bothered by injuries and added weight the past couple seasons, as well as sophomore tailback Ryan Grant. Fifth-year senior flanker Arnaz Battle, a former quarterback, has explosive potential.

Senior center Jeff Faine is a legitimate All-America candidate, while guard Sean Mahan and tackle Jordan Black, both seniors, will also be keys.

New defensive coordinator Kent Baer has a solid secondary, led by cornerbacks Shane Walton, a fifth-year senior and all-star candidate, and junior Vontez Duff. Senior Courtney Watson is back at inside linebacker. Fifth-year senior Ryan Roberts could be a force at end.

Placekicker Nick Setta and punter Joey Hildbold, both seniors, are seasoned veterans who have been through the wars.

Navy

In an effort to rebuild the Naval Academy's program from the rubble of an 0-10 season, new coach Paul Johnson borrowed an attitude and a slogan from the Northwestern teams of the mid-'90s with the Mid-shipmen's "Expect to Win" approach to the 2002 campaign.

Johnson returns to Annapolis after a two-year stint in the mid-90s as Navy's offensive coordinator. Over the past five years, Johnson fashioned a 62-10 record at Division I-AA Georgia Southern that included a pair of national championships and four national Coach-of-the-Year awards.

Those results may be somewhat difficult to match at Navy. There is talent on the Midshipmen roster, but finding the right combinations and the proper placement of personnel could take some time.

Finding a quarterback will be a priority for Johnson. Junior Craig Candeto, who had two starts last season when starter Brian Madden was suspended at the beginning of the season, may be the best bet to be the team leader. Junior Andy Michalowicz and sophomore Jake Swanson are other contenders for the job.

Junior slotback Tony Lane returns after rushing for 185 yards in 2001. Lane's most significant contributions were as a kick returner. He ranked 19th in the country, bringing back 34 kickoffs for a 26.4-yard average.

Navy's offense got a boost when senior receiver Brandon Rampani returned to school after leaving the academy last year. In two seasons, Rampani has 36 catches for 600 yards and five touchdowns. Rampani and senior Chandler Sims (18 catches for 183 yards last season) will give whoever settles in at quarterback some quality targets.

Last year's leading tackler, senior Lenter Thomas, and junior cornerback Shalimar Brazier are the defensive leaders.

Utah State

Much of the talk around the Utah State program this year will focus on senior All-America receiver Kevin Curtis.

A semifinalist for the Biletnikoff Award last season, the 5-11, 183-pound Curtis led the nation in receptions per game (9.1), hauling in 100 passes for 1,531 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Getting Curtis the ball shouldn't be a problem for senior Jose Fuentes, in his third year as the Aggies' starting quarterback. Fuentes completed 260 of 427 passes for 3,100 yards and 24 touchdowns (with 18 interceptions) while Utah State posted a 4-7 record.

Top players

OFFENSE: Kevin Curtis, WR, Utah State
DEFENSE: Shurron Pierson, DE, South Florida
NEWCOMER: Chris Olsen, QB, Notre Dame

Games to watch

Notre Dame vs. Maryland (Kickoff Classic, at Meadowlands), August 31
Utah State at Nebraska, September 7
South Florida at Oklahoma, September 28
Army vs. Navy (at Meadowlands), December 7

Coach Mick Dennehy's Aggies will try to recover from last year's season-ending 70-21 shelling at the hands of Fresno State. Injuries decimated Utah State's defense in 2001. Linebacker Jesse Busta is back to lend stability to the unit.

South Florida

An 8-3 record wasn't good enough to get South Florida into a postseason bowl game last season, but it was good enough to attract plenty of attention for coach Jim Leavitt's 2002 team. The Bulls will carry a six-game winning streak into this season.

One major reason for the interest is the return of senior quarterback Marquel Blackwell.

Blackwell threw for 2,882 yards and 20 touchdowns a year ago. He has 6,518 career passing yards heading into this season. Junior Huey Whittaker and senior Hugh Smith will again be Blackwell's top receivers.

Senior linebacker Kawika Mitchell is a defensive mainstay after leading South Florida with 106 tackles last year. Junior defensive end Shurron Pierson had 10 quarterback sacks, and J.R. Reed, a junior defensive back, intercepted five passes.

Connecticut

In its third season as a Division I-A independent, Connecticut seems poised to take the next step to a competitive level.

Two years ago, coach Randy Edsall's Huskies entered college football's top division with a roster of 70 scholarship players that included 48 freshmen and sophomores. Those youngsters have grown up and, after a learning experience during last year's 2-9 campaign, are ready to start enjoying themselves.

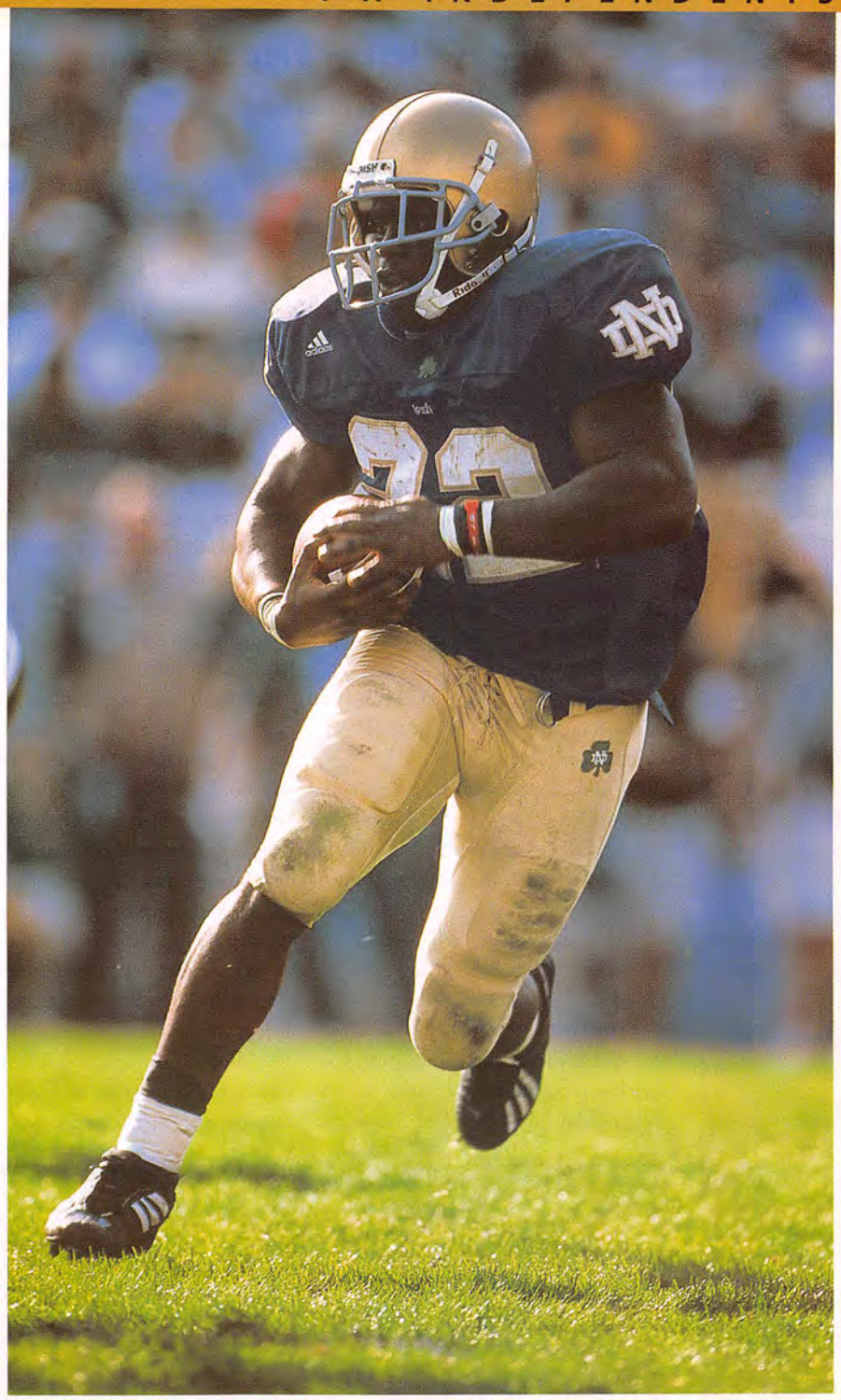
Sophomores Dan Orlovsky and Keron Henry, who shared time at quarterback last season, are both back along with redshirt freshman Jermell Williams. Sophomore Chris Bellamy and junior Chandler Poole will form a solid tandem at tailback. Senior Wes Timko will lead UConn's receiving corps.

Junior safety Chris Meyer and senior cornerback Roy Hopkins will be the backbone of the Huskies' defense. Senior Razul Wallace is a mainstay at linebacker.

Troy State

In his second season of navigating the independent waters of Division I-A college football, Troy State coach Larry Blakeney knows that improving on last year's 7-4 mark may be asking a lot. The Trojans will be playing nine D-I opponents—up from seven last year—including games at Nebraska, Iowa State, Missouri, Mississippi State, Arkansas and Marshall.

Of course, Blakeney's team is no stranger to tough games on the road. Last year, it played at Nebraska, Miami and Maryland—and beat Mississippi State in Starkville 21-9.



Julius Jones, *Notre Dame*

JOHN WILLIAMSON

Blakeney has some proven talent back—eight starters on both offense and defense. Quarterback Hansell Bearden, tailback LeBarron Black and versatile receiver Chris Day have solidified their spots in the Trojan attack, and Drew Amerson, a transfer from Cal State Northridge, was a big surprise in the spring at wide receiver.

Defensively, linebackers Naazir Yamini, Michael Jackson and Bernard Davis will be key components, along with linemen Osi Umenyiora, Byron Knight and Shelton Felton, and Derrick Ansley and Neal Oates in the secondary. ■

Griz primed for a repeat.

BY STEVE AMEDIO
SCHENECTADY (NY) GAZETTE

It's a widely held truth that one of the toughest tasks in sports isn't winning a championship—it's winning a second one the year after that first success.

National champions at any level play the following season with a figurative bull's-eye on their backs. Win a title and you're every opponent's biggest game the following season.

And, at the college level, it also usually means trying to do it after the graduation losses of many of the key players that helped earn the first championship.

All of which Montana, which finished 15-1 and captured the 2001 season's Division I-AA national championship, faces this season.

But there aren't many coaches better suited for a try at a repeat than the Grizzlies' Joe Glenn.

The third-year Montana head man has already directed a program to back-to-back national titles, doing that with Northern Colorado, where he won Division II titles in 1996 and 1997.

Montana's quest, too, should be aided by an apparent falloff by several of last season's stronger teams.

Furman, which lost to Montana in last season's national championship game, not only lost its coach (Bobby Johnson moved to Vanderbilt), but graduated five of six players who earned All-America honors.

Georgia Southern, which did win back-to-back national crowns in 1999 and 2000 and wound up ranked No. 3 last season, also lost its head coach (Paul Johnson moved to Navy), but lost five All-Southern Conference players, including running back Adrian Peterson, I-AA's all-time career rushing leader.

And so it goes, as almost every program traditionally among the national title contenders appears to have significant personnel holes to fill this season.

Not that the Grizzlies are back intact, though. Montana graduated Yohance Humphrey, arguably the best runner in school history. It also needs to adequately plug holes at wide receiver, tight end and in the secondary if it expects to repeat.

But enough key pieces remain, including standout quarterback John Edwards, who is as capable of moving the Grizzlies' offense through the air as Humphrey was moving it on the ground.

He'll get plenty of protection from an offensive line that includes four of last season's starting five. The defense won't drop off much, either, as all four starting linemen return.

"'Rock solid' might be our theme this year," says Glenn, when asked about the abundance of his returning linemen. ■

Top 25

1. Montana
2. Eastern Kentucky
3. Lehigh
4. Northern Iowa
5. Eastern Illinois
6. Portland State
7. Appalachian State
8. East Tennessee State
9. Youngstown State
10. Murray State
11. William & Mary
12. Delaware
13. Tennessee Tech
14. Montana State
15. Western Kentucky
16. Florida A&M
17. Tennessee State
18. Grambling
19. Colgate
20. Villanova
21. Northern Arizona
22. Western Carolina
23. Hofstra
24. Sam Houston State
25. Georgia Southern

Freddy Pesqueira, Georgia Southern (left)

Division I-AA All-America Team

OFFENSE

QB—**Tony Romo**, senior, Eastern Illinois
RB—**C.J. Hudson**, sophomore, Eastern Kentucky
RB—**Tom Koutsos**, senior, Southern Illinois
WR—**Drew Amerson**, senior, Cal State Northridge
WR—**Chas Gessner**, senior, Brown
TE—**Steve Farmer**, senior, Tennessee State
OL—**Chad Setterstrom**, senior, Northern Iowa
OL—**Nick Roberts**, junior, Youngstown State
OL—**Mike Brigand**, senior, Hofstra
OL—**Dylan McFarland**, junior, Montana
OL—**James McCoy**, senior, Georgia Southern
PK—**Mackenzie Hoambrecker**, senior, Northern Iowa
RS—**Brian Bratton**, sophomore, Furman

DEFENSE

DL—**D.J. Bleisath**, senior, Tennessee Tech
DL—**Josh Jeffries**, senior, Appalachian State
DL—**Freddy Pesqueira**, senior, Georgia Southern
DL—**Valdamar Brower**, senior, Massachusetts
LB—**Erik Dandy**, junior, Western Kentucky
LB—**Stephen Cooper**, senior, Maine
LB—**Nick Ricks**, junior, Eastern Illinois
DB—**Jon Ambrose**, senior, St. Peter's
DB—**Yeremiah Bell**, senior, Eastern Kentucky
DB—**Hadley Prince**, senior, McNeese State
DB—**Terrance Miles**, senior, Indiana State
P—**Eddie Johnson**, senior, Idaho State

Top players

OFFENSE: Tony Romo, QB, Eastern Illinois
DEFENSE: Freddy Pesqueira, DL, Georgia Southern
NEWCOMER: Casey Printers, QB, Florida A&M

Games to watch

Montana at Hofstra, August 29
Appalachian St. at East Tennessee St., October 5
Eastern Kentucky at Eastern Illinois, October 12
N.C. A&T at Florida A&M, October 19
McNeese State at Sam Houston State, October 26
Georgia Southern at Furman, November 9

Tribe looks to rise above parity on A-10 reservation.

BY CHUCK NEWMAN

The addition of former independent power Hofstra to the already-powerful Atlantic 10 membership was a good-news, bad-news scenario in 2001.

The Pride lived up to preseason expectations, finishing in a four-way tie for the league championship and getting to the NCAA playoffs.

The league was hurt in the final rankings by their presence despite getting five teams (Maine, Hofstra, William & Mary, Villanova and Rhode Island) in the final Top 25 rankings. There were nine ranked in the Top 25 in some polls at some point early in the season.

Even though two teams won nine games and three others eight, the league bombed in the postseason, getting only three teams into the I-AA playoffs. Hofstra and William & Mary went out in the first round, and Maine lost its second-round playoff game.

The positive: Hofstra likely helped the conference achieve the parity that any college or professional league covets. Every week was a battle.

The negative: If that's what it achieved, the A-10 paid for it in the postseason, where leagues are ultimately measured.

"By the time the (league) season is over, the teams are tired and beat up," says Hofstra coach Joe Gardi of the A-10 competition. "By the time you get to the playoffs, you have lost the war."

William & Mary, picked to finish sixth last preseason, earned a share of the league title and missed taking it outright by losing two games by a total of nine points.

The Tribe appears to have the personnel for a run at another championship, with 19 returnees having starting experience, including two all-league first-teamers, one second-teamer and one third-teamer.

Start with the return of all-league wideout Rich Musinski, who collected a school-record 1,393 receiving yards on 59 catches (12 for touchdowns), averaging 23.6 yards per catch (another school record).

Second team all-league quarterback Dave Corley returns with impressive numbers from last season—179 completions on 311 attempts for 2,808 yards and 21 touchdowns. He ran for five others, gaining 335 yards rushing.

The key returnees on defense are third-team all-league defensive back Marques Bobo and linebacker Mohammed Yousofi.

Delaware, which failed to live up to the role of preseason favorite in 2001, will be under a new coach for the first time in 37 seasons. K.C. Keeler arrives from Division III power Rowan to succeed Tubby Raymond, who left with 300 wins and three *Associated Press* small college national championships. Keeler also comes with an impressive background, going 88-21-1 in nine years at Rowan and reaching the Division III final five times.

Keeler was an outside linebacker on the Blue Hens' 1979 national championship team, but is known as a proponent of high-octane offense.

Keeler will return 6-foot-4 quarterback Mike Connor, who was the first true freshman to play the position at Delaware since 1951. He took over the job in the fourth game of last season and completed 41 of 83 passes. He will have at least one good target in promising redshirt freshman Brian Ingram, a candidate for Newcomer of the Year.

Antawn Jenkins, a 6-2, 240-pounder who ran for 578 yards and five touchdowns last season, will handle the running game.

Defensively, the Hens should be solid. Start with defensive back Sidney Haugabrook, the A-10's 2001 Rookie of the Year who leads a defensive secondary that returns intact.

Villanova lost out on a postseason bid in its final game of the season, a demoralizing 47-44 overtime loss to William & Mary.

Mike Connor, *Delaware*

Coach Andy Talley was disappointed with 2001, not with the 8-3 overall record and 7-2 league mark that brought him a tie for the conference title, but with being the only 7-2 A-10 team not invited to the playoffs.

"It's a pretty sad commentary on where this whole thing (the playoffs) is," Talley says. "To be a champion of a league and not go to the playoffs, it's a shame."

To get in at least the same position this year, Talley must find a replacement for running back Brian Westbrook, Division I-AA's 2001 Player of the Year, and receiver Murle Sango, who had 67 catches last season. Keep an eye on Terry Butler, who may be the successor to Westbrook.

But don't count the Wildcats out just yet. They have firepower with the return of quarterback Brett Gordon, who completed 68.6 percent of his passes last season for 3,017 yards and 25 touchdowns. His top target, second-team all-league tight end Matt Chila, is back.

Predictions

1. William & Mary
2. Delaware
3. Villanova
4. Hofstra
5. Massachusetts
6. Maine
7. New Hampshire
8. Rhode Island
9. Richmond
10. James Madison
11. Northeastern

Top players

OFFENSE: Mike Connor, QB, Delaware
DEFENSE: Stephen Cooper, LB, Maine
NEWCOMER: Brian Ingram, WR, Delaware

Games to watch

Montana at Hofstra, August 29
William & Mary at Maine, September 7
Delaware at Richmond, September 7
Hofstra at Villanova, October 5
Delaware at Rhode Island, October 19
Richmond at William & Mary, November 23

Also back is third-team all-league linebacker Jamison Young, who will be a key to a defense that will have to improve from a ninth-place finish against the pass in 2001.

Hofstra will have to replace three players who accounted for more than 80 percent of its league-leading offense (491.6 yards per game) of last season, headed by all-league quarterback Rocky Butler, who threw for more than 297 yards a game and accounted for 338 yards in total offense per start. He threw 16 touchdown passes to Kahmal Roy, another graduation loss.

Ryan Cosentino, who backed up Butler in cameo appearances last season, is back and has a resume. He stepped in for Butler in a game against Delaware in 2000 and went 17-for-23 for 179 yards and two touchdowns.

Cosentino will have prime targets in redshirt junior college receiver Ken Bell; Arlen Harris, a transfer from Virginia; Isaac Irby, a transfer from West Virginia; and 6-foot-4 Marques Colston.

The running game should be solid with the return of Trevor Dimmie, who averaged five yards a carry and will get some yardage behind 6-3, 290-pound all-league lineman Mike Brigand.

A staple of the league's hierarchy in the past few seasons, **Massachusetts** took a big-time dive last year, finishing 3-8 overall and 3-5 in the league.

More surprisingly was the inefficiency of the offense, usually a strength under coach Mark Whipple. UMass ranked last in the league in scoring at 16.2 points per game and sixth in passing, usually its strong suit.

The Minutemen will throw the ball; it's just a matter of who will do the throwing. Back is sophomore Matt Guice, who threw for 206 yards per game last season but had a league-high 21 interceptions. His tenure is shaky with the arrival of transfer Jeff Krohn, who started for two seasons and threw 31 touchdown passes at Arizona State.

Another boost will be the return of wideout Adrian Zullo, the school's all-time leader in receptions, touchdown receptions and receiving yards. Zullo has been hit with injuries the last two seasons. Receiver Neal Brown, who caught 37 passes last year, also figures to be a factor.

The defense is anchored by all-league defensive lineman Valdamar Brower, who led the team in tackles for loss with 24 and had a league-leading 10 sacks.

Picked to finish eighth in the league last year, **Maine** went 9-3, won a playoff game and was ranked 10th nationally in the final poll. One league coach says never to judge the Black Bears' potential early because of their late recruiting practices.

They will not be taken so lightly this season, listing 45 lettermen, the most the Bears have had in a decade.

The key returnee is middle linebacker Stephen Cooper, the league's Defensive Player of the Year in 2001. The numbers tell why—115 tackles, 17 for loss, plus 14 tackles against Richmond.

Coach Jack Cosgrove certainly has the ingredients for another shot at the league title, returning 21 players with experience on offense, headed by quarterback Jake Eaton, who averaged 225 yards a game passing. He will have two of his favorite receivers back in Stefan Gomes, who led the league with 81 catches for 1,069 yards, and junior Paris Minor, who caught 58 balls and scored 11 TDs.

Maine will miss graduated running back Royston English (1,300 yards) but returns James Henry, who ran for 76 yards and a touchdown in Maine's second-round playoff game last year when English was out with an injury.

The Bears will score. How they stop the other team may dictate their ultimate fate. They gave up 44 points to Hofstra, 40 to Villanova, 42 to William & Mary and 56 to Northern Iowa in the playoff loss.

New Hampshire is best known for participating in shootouts, averaging nearly 400 yards a game over the past few seasons, and that may be the case again despite the loss of quarterback Ryan Day, who took with him most of the school's passing records.

Back are second-team all-league running back Stephan Lewis, who averaged 5.6 yards per carry and scored 14 touchdowns, and receiver Michael Taylor, who caught 57 passes for 780 yards. Sophomore Mike Granieri and senior Michael Hurley are candidates to succeed Day.

A defense that surrendered a league-high 325 points must be addressed.

Picked to finish ninth last preseason, **Rhode Island** won its first seven games and rose to No. 4 in one national poll, finishing 8-3.

A repeat of that scenario would seem to be a reach since the players responsible for 98 percent of the passing yards, 72 percent of the rushing yardage and 68 percent of the non-kick scoring are gone. The departed players include six of seven All-Atlantic 10 picks on the first, second and third teams.

History is also against a rerun since the Rams haven't put together back-to-back winning seasons since a four-year run from 1982 through 1985. And the first two games of the season are against Hofstra and Syracuse.

The Rams will have a new quarterback, so the running game will likely be featured with the return of Luther Green, who has 1,000-yard potential, and junior Wendell Williams.

The defense is iffy, but tackles Marc Hayes and Eric Gray could be the best tandem up front in the league.

The road back from a No. 6 final national ranking in 2000 continues for **Richmond**, which must replace 18 seniors who had a part of two Atlantic 10 championships in their tenure.

But in a league known for its unpredictability, the Spiders will not be without hope.

Linebackers Adrian Archie, who led the team with 89 tackles, and Mark Thompson, who had 82, return along with three other starters from a defense that ranked 11th nationally,

On offense, an unlikely named 6-5, 290-pound offensive lineman, Justin McElfish (who certainly isn't), is on some preseason lists for All-America.

In 1999, **James Madison** was picked preseason to finish last in the league. The Dukes won the title and automatic bid to the playoffs.

There are ingredients for such a scenario this season, but it's highly unlikely.

Eight starters return on defense, but the unit will miss Derrick Lloyd, who won the Buck Buchanan Award as Division I-AA's top defensive player last season, and linebacker Derick Pack, who was a three-time all-leaguer. The defensive secondary returns almost intact.

A 27-26 loss at Rhode Island in the final 30 seconds of the last game of the season cost **Northeastern** a .500 finish in 2001, but a veteran defense may help to change that this season.

The Huskies ranked high in several A-10 defensive categories—third in scoring defense and second in pass defense, total defense and first downs allowed.

Much of that unit returns, led by 6-2, 235-pound linebacker Steve Anzalone, a second-team, all-league choice who had 19 tackles for loss last season.

The defense will have to be effective since the offense, which scored only 165 points last season, was hit hard by graduation. The Huskies lost both starting receivers and all-league running back L.J. McKanas.

Quarterback Shawn Brady, a freshman who took over when the team was 1-4 last season, helped the Huskies to four wins in their last six games, completing 43 of 93 passes with four touchdowns. ■

It's Montana (yawn), again.

BY LOREN JORGENSEN
(SALT LAKE CITY) DESERET NEWS

There is no question why Montana enters the 2002 season as the Big Sky Conference's team to beat. After all, the defending Division I-AA national champ has pretty much owned the league crown in recent years, winning it six times in the past seven seasons and four times in a row. Plus, Joe Glenn's club, which has gone 15-0 in league games the past two seasons, returns 17 starters.

Still, the other seven Big Sky schools aren't about to concede anything to the Grizzlies. Montana may have great tradition and own a certain mystique in these parts, but it also has a bull's-eye on its uniform.

Glenn, entering his third season as **Montana** coach, doesn't know what it feels like to lose a Big Sky game. His Griz own a perfect mark in the league over the past two seasons.

With 17 starters back from last year's national title club (eight defensive, seven offensive, two kickers), more Big Sky victories are on the horizon.

The Griz will be particularly strong in the trenches. Four top offensive linemen—tackles Dylan McFarland and Jon Skinner, guard Derek Decker and center Brian Pelc—return to protect senior quarterback John Edwards, an honorable mention all-league selection last season. Two of Edwards' top targets, receivers Rory Zikmund and Tate Hancock, are also back.

The defensive line should be another strength for Montana, as all four starters return, led by second-team all-conference selections Ciche Pitcher at end and Jonny Varona at tackle. Montana's leading returning tackler is senior safety Trey Young, a first-team all-league pick last season and a conference Player-of-the-Year candidate this time around.

Portland State finished last season with four straight wins, giving it plenty of optimism for the upcoming season. John Walsh, now in his 10th season as the Vikings' coach, should again have one of the most potent offenses in the land, led by all-league quarterback Juston Wood (3,200 yards passing, 23 TDs last season).

Wood has a couple of fine receivers to throw to in Jessie Levin (48 catches, 905 yards) and Antonio Jackson (29, 398). The Vikings should also be able to run the ball effectively thanks in large part to Ryan Fuqua, the Big Sky's Newcomer of the Year in 2001. Fuqua picked up 1,586 yards and scored 15 TDs as a freshman despite not becoming a starter until the sixth game of the year. Fuqua led the nation by averaging 7.55 yards per carry.

Just six defensive starters return from a team that allowed 28.5 points per outing. The linebacking corps should be strong, led by seniors Kevin Hastin and Marcus Green.

Montana State may still be a year or two away from really competing with its in-state rival for the Big Sky crown, but MSU is certainly on the rise. Then again, the Bobcats had plenty of room for improvement after an 0-11 season in 2000.

Mike Kramer's nightmarish first season as the head coach in Bozeman is a distant memory. The Bobcats ended an 18-game losing streak in their second game last season and finished a respectable 5-6 overall and 4-3 in Big Sky games for a solid fourth-place league finish.

Montana State used defense to win games in the offensive-minded Big Sky a year ago. The Bobcats had the stingiest defense in the conference.

Experience will be another strength for the 'Cats, as 16 starters return from last year's team, with 24 players back who have started at least one game. The offense will be led by running back Ryan Johnson, who enters his senior year with 2,554 career rushing yards, and quarterback Tyler Thomas, who passed for 2,330 yards and 19 scores last season.

Northern Arizona is coming off an 8-4 season that saw it gain an at-large berth in the I-AA playoffs. Duplicating that feat, however, may be difficult since Jerome Souers' team was hit harder by graduation than most of the other Big Sky contenders.

Gone are the Lumberjacks' top quarterback (Preston Parsons) and running back (Marcus King). In fact, only five offensive starters return. Among the returnees are top receivers Clarence Moore (43 catches, 644 yards) and Johnny Marshall, as well as tight end Tom Winn.

NAU's defense, which was the third best in the league in 2001, should again be a team strength with seven starters back.

On the heels of a disappointing 3-8 season, **Weber State** coach Jerry Graybeal believes his team is ready for a vastly different campaign. One reason for optimism in Ogden is the return of quarterback Tyler Gladwell, who threw for 2,733 yards and 22 touchdowns with only nine interceptions as a junior. The Weber State defense, which returns five starters, is led by middle linebacker Matt McFadden, a first-team all-league pick.

Idaho State has a veteran team returning that had an up-and-down 4-7 campaign in '01.

The Bengals return 19 starters—nine on offense, nine on defense and All-America punter Eddie Johnson. First-team all-conference linemen Jared Allen and Eric Boose are back to anchor the defense. The offense will be paced by quarterback Doug Baughman, who completed 58.5 percent of his passes for 2,638 yards and 20 TDs last season.

No Big Sky team has more holes to fill on the offensive side of the ball than **Eastern Washington**. Offensive lineman Justin Nipp is the only returning starter for Paul Wulff's team, which averaged 41.9 points and 514 yards per game a year ago.

That doesn't mean the Eagles don't expect to have another potent attack, however. Josh Blankenship, a three-year starter at Tulsa who has more than 5,000 I-A passing yards to his credit, will get to see what he can do at the I-AA level.

Seven defensive starters return, led by middle linebacker Luke Vincent, a second-team all-league selection a year ago.

One year removed from a school-best 7-4 record, **Sacramento State** went a disappointing 2-9 last season, winning just one conference game.

Ten starters return on offense, including sophomore quarterback Ryan Leadingham, who passed for a school-record 2,752 yards as a freshman. ■

Predictions

1. Montana
2. Portland State
3. Montana State
4. Northern Arizona
5. Weber State
6. Idaho State
7. Eastern Washington
8. Sacramento State

Top players

OFFENSE: Juston Wood, QB, Portland State
DEFENSE: Trey Young, S, Montana
NEWCOMER: Josh Blankenship, QB, Eastern Washington

Games to watch

Portland State at Northern Arizona, September 28
Montana at Portland State, October 26
Northern Arizona at Montana, November 2
Montana State at Montana, November 23

Phoenix to rise in league's debut.

BY D. SCOTT SMITH
STREET & SMITH'S MANAGING EDITOR

At first glance, it would appear that the upstart Big South Conference, beginning its first year of football this season with four teams, is eons away from challenging its more established neighbor, the Southern Conference, for the top rung of the Division I-AA ladder.

But charter Big South football member Elon begs to differ.

Last November, the Phoenix had six-time I-AA champ and perennial SoCon powerhouse Georgia Southern on the ropes, leading 21-20 with time winding down. If not for a highly controversial roughing-the-passer penalty on a fourth-and-forever play, Elon would own a real trophy victory heading into this season. Instead, the Eagles were given a reprieve and went on to eke out a 27-21 win.

But it was not a bad effort for an Elon team that finished 2-9. What might a Big South team with a *winning* record do to GSU.

Let's not get crazy here, but there is potential in this league whose biggest strength may lie in its fertile recruiting base in the Carolinas and Virginia. The Big South will begin with Elon, Charleston Southern, Gardner-Webb and Liberty playing for its first championship this season, and then it adds Coastal Carolina and Virginia Military Institute (which has abandoned the Southern) next season. By 2005, the league should get the go-ahead from the NCAA to send its champion to the I-AA playoffs.

"It's a prestige issue," answers Big South Commissioner Kyle Kallander when asked why a conference built on basketball felt compelled to try football. "College football has such a visible platform. It's an opportunity for our institutions to raise their profiles for fundraising and enrollment growth. Now they'll see their school's name crawl across the ESPN scoreboard on Saturdays."

The four schools competing this season will all play each other, with a champion being crowned at the end of the regular season. With 19 returning starters, Elon would appear to be the favorite. Its two wins against a very challenging I-AA schedule last season came in easy fashion against Gardner-Webb and Charleston Southern.

Coach Al Seagraves enters his seventh year as the coach at **Elon** believing that he has toughened his troops for a conference race. Seven of the Phoenix's nine losses last season came against the likes of such I-AA heavies as Furman, Hofstra, Western Kentucky, Northwestern State, Georgia Southern and Youngstown State. And all but one of those games was on the road.

So, the Phoenix may find league life in the Big South a breeze comparatively. The out-of-conference schedule is no less challenging, as East Tennessee State, Wofford and North Carolina A&T have been added, while Furman, Hofstra and Northwestern State remain.

"We return just about everybody, and the experience we gained from playing that bold schedule should help us," Seagraves says.

Seagraves is banking on big-play wideout Arketa Banks to be the offensive leader of a Phoenix rise. The junior, who was named to the I-AA All-Independent first team last season, averaged an eye-popping 24.5 yards on 22 receptions while also leading the team in punt returns (14.9-yard average) and kickoff returns (28.5).

Elon will depend on a three-man quarterback rotation—James Murdaugh, Larrey Burney and C.W. Singletary—to run Seagraves' wishbone offense.

The defense will be led by 300-pound-plus sophomore noseguard Chris Bell, tackle Kahlil Brewster and linebacker Calvin Sutton, the team's leading returning tackler. Also expected to contribute at linebacker is N.C. State transfer Mike Sheley.

Gardner-Webb, a football-only member of the Big South, won its last four games last season to finish 6-4, so the Runnin' Bulldogs have some momentum entering 2002.

Sixth-year coach Steve Patton has put together five consecutive winning seasons in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, with a high-powered, multiple offense. Back to run the show is senior quarterback Jeremy Martin, who directed the Bulldogs to an average of 445 yards and 32.2 points a game in 2001. Martin has thrown for 5,637 yards in his career. The top target is junior William Andrews Jr., who already has 108 catches in his career.

G-W's biggest loss was massive 6-3, 344-pound offensive tackle Richard Williams, who was chosen for last year's Blue-Gray All-Star Game.

On defense, newcomer Jonathan Little could have a big impact at linebacker.

The Bulldogs' schedule is loaded in September, with consecutive games against Georgia Southern, East Tennessee State and Chattanooga.

Like Elon, **Liberty** hopes a murderous 2001 schedule will lead to a toughened-up 2002 version of its team. The Flames finished 3-8 last season.

Five players who received second-team I-AA All-Independent status are back—sophomore running back Verondre Barnes, junior wide receiver Adrian Hall, sophomore wideout Daniel Thomas, junior linebacker Kendrick Howard and senior placekicker/punter Jay Kelley.

Barnes averaged 6.4 yards per carry in gaining 654 yards despite missing four games. Thomas led the Flames with 575 yards receiving on 42 catches as a freshman. Howard paced the defense with 91 tackles, including 13 for losses.

Third-year coach Ken Karcher says he's hopeful the Flames' schedule sets up better for success this season, as four of the team's first five games are at home in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Charleston Southern may not be as battle-tested in the I-AA wars as its Big South brethren. The Buccaneers played just seven I-AA opponents in 2001, with three of its five wins coming against Division II schools.

But coach David Dowd has most of his skill people back on offense, including senior receiver Brad Moultrie, who caught a school-record 59 passes for 865 yards last season. He'll be joined at wideout by junior Luke Turner, who had 51 catches a year ago.

On defense, the secondary is a solid one, featuring four returning starters led by corner Dounia Whitehouse and Mike Washington, who ranked 11th in I-AA kickoff returns last year with a 26.9-yard average that included two touchdowns. ■

Predictions

1. Elon
2. Gardner-Webb
3. Liberty
4. Charleston Southern

Top players

OFFENSE: Arketa Banks, WR, Elon
DEFENSE: Kendrick Howard, LB, Liberty
NEWCOMER: Jonathan Little, LB, Gardner-Webb

Games to watch

East Tennessee State at Gardner-Webb, September 14
Gardner-Webb at Liberty, October 5
Elon at Gardner-Webb, October 12
Hofstra at Elon, November 2
Liberty at Elon, November 9
Charleston Southern at The Citadel, November 21

Things getting tighter at top, where UNI should remain.

BY SEAN P. HAYDEN
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

Three coaches making their Gateway head-coaching debut stole the headlines last season, with newcomer Mark Farley leading Northern Iowa to the conference title and into the I-AA playoffs for the first time since 1996.

At Youngstown State, Jon Heacock took over for Jim Tressel after his departure for the top job at Ohio State and led the Penguins to a second-place finish. And Jack Harbaugh took first-year Gateway entrant Western Kentucky to an appearance in the postseason.

This could be the most unpredictable season in the Gateway in quite some time. All the perennial favorites have huge holes to fill, while many of the customary second-tier teams, like Indiana State and Southwest Missouri State, are poised to make a jump to the top should one of the leaders falter. And can Western Illinois, despite losing nearly every starter on offense, rebound from a mediocre 5-5 campaign?

A clear-cut, two-tier league in the past, it seems that the line between contender and pretender in 2002 is a little less precise than usual.

Northern Iowa came out of nowhere a year ago under Farley to win the Gateway, advancing all the way to the I-AA semifinals. Farley has less to sort out, seemingly, than he did a year ago, but there are still some questions to answer. Quarterbacks Griff Jurgens and Tom Petrie shared time last season due to injury, but both are vying for the job full-time this fall.

Nine offensive and five defensive starters return for Farley. Those returnees include four on the offensive line. Defensively, the Panthers lost their entire starting secondary. The defensive line should be a strength, but the loss of Buck Buchanan Award finalist Adam Vogt at linebacker will hurt. All-America kicker MacKenzie Hoambrecker also returns.

What will P.J. Mays do for an encore? The senior back ran for more than 1,400 yards and scored 22 touchdowns as a junior for **Youngstown State**. Mays led the top-scoring offense in the Gateway. That unit must find a new leader, as standout QB Jeff Ryan, a four-year starter, has graduated. Mays shouldn't worry, however, as the Penguins return a lot of experience on the line and at tight end.

YSU should be strong on the other side of the ball with most of its front seven back. The loss of LeVar Greene in the secondary will have to be compensated for.

Western Kentucky tied for second in its first year in the Gateway and made the I-AA playoffs but will have its work cut out to match that feat again this season. Coach Jack Harbaugh lost the top two quarterbacks and top two running backs from his option attack, but they weren't even the biggest losses. A pair of stalwart defensive backs, Mel Mitchell and Joseph Jefferson, were both drafted into the NFL in April.

All-America guard Chris Price anchors a solid offensive line that helped the Hilltoppers rank second in I-AA in rushing last season. Defensively, WKU returns all-conference performers Patrick Reynolds, Sherrod Coates and Erik Dandy.

The explosive Julian Reese should help lead an **Indiana State** revival. The senior signal-caller was the Gateway's Newcomer of the Year last season and is the league's top returning total offense leader from a year ago. A double-threat, Reese ran for five touchdowns last year and threw for eight more. His receiving corps, led by Kevin Dean, Chris Lewis and Tommy Signars, is deep and talented.

Tackle Richard Harris and back Terrance Miles lead a defense that will have to improve on last year's porous effort. The Sycamores return eight starters, but none bigger or better than the 6-foot-3, 270-pound Harris, an All-America candidate who racked up 14 tackles for loss and three sacks despite being hampered by injury.

It looks like **Western Illinois**, coming off an uncharacteristic 5-5 season, will have to win with defense this year as the offense lost 10 of 11 starters. The defense returns nine starters, led by linebackers Lee Russell and Jason McWilliams. Russ Michna should be ready to handle the chores at quarterback and had an impressive spring for coach Don Patterson.

Southwest Missouri State is making strides under fourth-year coach Randy Ball, but how many more wins that will bring in the always-tough Gateway after last year's 6-5 finish is a big question mark. Junior Ryan Porter will take over at QB for an offense that averaged 45 points in winning its last four games. Mark Marcos will be the main target after setting school records for receptions (59) and yardage (905) last season. Eddie Linscomb returns to the backfield after rushing for 984 yards and averaging 6.4 per carry. The entire linebacking corps will need to be replaced, but there's experience up front.

Southern Illinois coach Jerry Kill said during spring scrimmages he wouldn't know, or at least say publicly, who his starting quarterback would be until the fall. Both candidates, Joel Sambursky and Stanley Bryant, are redshirt freshmen. No matter who gets the call, however, his main job will be to turn and hand off to Tom Koutsos. The All-Gateway performer is the Salukis' all-time leading rusher and ran for nearly 1,300 yards last season. He'll have to repeat that performance if SIU hopes to improve on last year's dismal 1-10 mark.

Despite suffering through a 2-9 season a year ago, **Illinois State** showed flashes of a bright future, most notably with a 42-14 whipping of conference champ Northern Iowa. The Redbirds return productive wideout Vito Golson, who made the switch from linebacker last season, but they need to fill the gaps at quarterback and running back. A senior-dominated offensive line will have to lead the way.

The Redbirds return tackle machine Boomer Grigsby at linebacker. He should be helped greatly there by the arrival of T.J. Jackson, who played three years at Virginia Tech before transferring. A tested secondary should be a strength for the ISU defense. ■

Predictions

1. Northern Iowa
2. Youngstown State
3. Western Kentucky
4. Indiana State
5. Western Illinois
6. S.W. Missouri State
7. Southern Illinois
8. Illinois State

Top players

OFFENSE: P.J. Mays, RB, Youngstown State
DEFENSE: Richard Harris, DL, Indiana State
NEWCOMER: T.J. Jackson, LB, Illinois State

Games to watch

Western Kentucky at Kansas State, August 31
Northern Iowa at Oklahoma State, September 7
Youngstown State at Western Kentucky, September 21
Northern Iowa at Youngstown State, October 19
Indiana State at Western Kentucky, October 26
Northern Iowa at Indiana State, November 2

High-octane Bears will provide plenty of offense.

BY CHUCK NEWMAN

Last preseason, seven of eight Ivy League teams had quarterbacks with big-time statistics returning.

Not this year.

There will new quarterbacks at six schools, most with little or no experience, each trying to establish credibility or identity.

Harvard won't be expected to go undefeated this season, and will likely not repeat as champs. The Crimson took too many graduation hits at key positions. Look for the Crimson, along with Penn and Princeton, to try and keep high-octane Brown out of the Ivy penthouse.

The **Brown** Bears, under offensive-minded coach Phil Estes, will win almost every time they can get the opponent in a shootout. They led the Ivy and ranked ninth nationally in total offense last season with 447 yards a game.

This year's key weapons are 6-5, 230-pound receiver Chas Gessner, an NFL prospect and All-America who totaled 1,182 receiving yards last season and had 19 catches in a game against Rhode Island. Receiver/return specialist Brandon Buchanan, one of the league's swiftest players, will complement Gessner, as will newcomer Lonnie Hill.

Returning running back Joe Rackley will try to keep the defenses honest. Junior transfer Kyle Slager and junior Nate Poole will vie for the quarterback job. Linebacker Joel Barone, a second-team all-leaguer, leads the defense.

Repeating is always a crapshoot in this league, but what were the odds last year on **Harvard** going unbeaten for the first time since 1913?

Coach Tim Murphy will not be without weapons. Returning is Ivy Player of the Year Carl Morris, a receiver who had 71 catches and 12 touchdowns last season and holds school records in both categories. Also back is all-league quarterback Neil Rose, who completed 64 percent of his passes for 1,830 yards. Tailback Nick Palazzo, who gained 556 yards despite missing three games with an injury, also returns.

The defense lost seven starters to graduation, but all-league linebacker Dante Balestracci, who may be the best defensive player in the league, returns.

For the first time in six years, **Penn** won't have a mercenary (i.e., transfer Matt Rader from Duke, transfer Gavin Hoffman from Northwestern) at quarterback.

Mike Mitchell, who didn't play last season but completed 15 of 23 passes in 2000, is the prime candidate to start.

But replacing Hoffman may not be the main chore. That may be replacing Kris Ryan, the school's all-time leading rusher, who accounted for 1,500 yards of total offense last season. Candidates for the job are Jake Perskie, the back-up last season; Todd Okolovitch, who sat out last year with an injury; and Mike Recchiuti, a former state rushing champ as a prep in Pennsylvania.

Returning receiver Rob Milanese is only 123 yards short of the school's all-time receiving-yardage mark.

The defense should be solid thanks to the return of all-league linebacker Travis Belden and lineman Chris Pennington.

An Ivy title would be nice, but even a winning season would be significant for **Princeton**, which has had only two of those since 1995, when the Tigers won the league title.

Optimism comes from experience—19 returning starters back, eight at their positions for a third year. And the team did end last season with lopsided wins over Yale and Dartmouth.

The Tigers are one of the teams returning their quarterback. David Splithoff, who threw for 1,680 yards and nine touchdowns last season, will have good targets in receivers Chisom Opara (36 catches for 581 yards) and B.J. Szymanski.

Running back Cameron Atkinson, who averaged 5.8 yards a carry, also returns.

Cornell is going to have to bank on its defense to buy time for an offense that lost seven starters, including quarterback Rick Rahne, who ran up 220 yards of offense a game last season and leaves with most of the school passing records.

The new QB will have a prime target in Keith Ferguson, who made 50 catches for 597 yards in 2001.

The defense returns virtually intact. The leader is defensive back James Moriarty, who had four interceptions and was in on 64 tackles last season.

Things have to get better at **Dartmouth**, where injuries, especially at quarterback and to linebacker Matt Mercer, contributed to a 1-8 record last year.

Things should improve with 37 lettermen back. Leading the list of returnees is last season's Ivy Rookie of the Year, Steve Jensen, a cornerback who led the league in tackles with 79 and broke the school's single-season mark for kickoff-return yardage with 771 yards on 31 attempts.

Another key returnee is quarterback Brian Mann, who sat out last season with a broken hand but is fifth in school history with 2,999 career passing yards. He threw for 994 yards and six touchdowns in 2000.

The two quarterbacks who took almost all the snaps last season at **Yale**—Peter Lee, who led the team in passing, and T.J. Hyland, who led the team in rushing—have graduated.

Alvin Cowan, who threw only four passes last year, may get the job.

Hopes are high that Robert Carr, who rushed for 325 yards and three touchdowns in the first five games of last year before an injury ended his season, is ready for a breakout campaign.

A veteran linebacker corps headed by Ken Estrera, Tate Rich and Derek Goeriz leads the defense.

The **Columbia** Lions, who were "offensively challenged" last season, ranking last in the league in scoring at 20.6 points a game, could have problems with the ball again.

Quarterback Jeff McCall, who had a 59.3 completion rate in throwing for 1,819 yards, and running back John Reese, who averaged 96 yards rushing a game (fourth-best in the league), are gone.

But there are 31 lettermen returning, including 17 on defense, where second-team all-league defensive back Phil Murray leads the charge. ■

Predictions

1. Brown
2. Harvard
3. Penn
4. Princeton
5. Cornell
6. Dartmouth
7. Yale
8. Columbia

Top players

OFFENSE: Chas Gessner, WR, Brown
DEFENSE: Dante Balestracci, LB, Harvard
NEWCOMER: Lonnie Hill, WR, Brown

Games to watch

Harvard at Brown, September 28
Brown at Princeton, October 19
Penn at Princeton, November 9
Harvard at Penn, November 16

MAAC to put up its Dukes again.

BY STEVE AMEDIO
SCHENECTADY (NY) GAZETTE

Another season, another championship for Duquesne? In recent years, the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference's regular season has been little more than a formality leading up to another coronation for the Dukes, who are gunning for their fourth consecutive conference crown and sixth in the last eight years.

And Duquesne, as usual, is loaded with talent despite some heavy graduation losses.

The Dukes lost running back Donte Small, the MAAC's Offensive Player of the Year last season, and his backfield mate, Josh Rue. The duo accounted for 94.8 percent of the team's rushing yards in 2001, but 17 other players who started at least a game from that team are back.

Also aboard is one of the better coaches ever to grace a MAAC sideline in Penn State grad Greg Gattuso, a four-time winner of the league's Coach-of-the-Year award in his nine seasons (71-25 overall). Over that time, Gattuso has directed the Dukes to a 49-7 MAAC record, including an active 16-game conference winning streak dating back to late in the 1999 season.

Its leading ground-gainers are gone, but **Duquesne** (6-0 MAAC, 8-3 overall) never seemingly has to rebuild. With Small and Rue gone, junior Mike Hilliard, who was expected to contend for major playing minutes last season before breaking a thumb and missing the entire year, will step in at tailback. Sophomore quarterback Niel Loebig, a 6-3, 215-pounder who came out of nowhere to throw for 2,112 yards and 22 touchdowns last season, should be even better with a year under his belt. He'll have plenty of targets, beginning with 6-2, 215-pound senior Jeremy Conley (41 catches, 766 yards) and junior Yardon Brantley (35, 719).

On defense, senior cornerback Leigh Bodden already holds every school interception record and needs seven more to tie the Division I-AA all-time career record of 28.

After losing to Duquesne early last season, **St. Peter's** (6-1, 10-1) ran off nine straight victories while outscoring opponents 256-42. The Peacocks have talent and quickness. They only lack overall size when compared with Duquesne. But some young players who played major roles in 2001 should be even better this season. They include last season's Offensive Rookie of the Year, running back Derek Clayton (945 rushing yards), and Defensive Rookie of the Year Shawn Poling, a 6-1, 235-pound linebacker who was in on 49 tackles last season, including 22 for losses. The Peacocks' strength is a defense that ranked first nationally on the I-AA level last year in points (8.2) and yardage allowed per game (156.5).

Two years ago, **Fairfield** (5-2, 5-5) lost its only MAAC game by a missed extra point to Duquesne. Last year, though, there was a slight dropoff that the Stags will be trying to reverse this time around. They have a solid nucleus of returning all-league-caliber players to do it, beginning with senior quarterback Mike Cerchio (1,455 passing yards, 17 touchdown passes in 2001) and his favorite target, senior wide receiver Andrew Turf (a MAAC-best 61 catches). The running game is in the good hands of junior tailback Rishawd Watson (776 yards), while 6-3, 295-pound senior Issac Brockman anchors the offensive line. Nick Totaro, a junior defensive back, is the team's top defender.

Marist (2-4, 3-6) finished with a sub-.500 record for the first time in seven years, but seems to have enough quality returning to have a chance to start another streak this season. The Red Foxes have a strong offensive line duo in 275-pound seniors Mike Loniewski and Juwan Jackson, both first-team All-MAAC picks last year. They'll open holes for senior backs Alfredo Riullano and Chris Price. The top defenders are defensive backs Ike Ibeh and Ian Jackson.

Despite some key losses, **Iona** (3-3, 4-5) appears capable of another solid season. The Gaels lost eight starters from last year, including two quarterbacks, but return a third quarterback in Billy Brieden, who could be the school's best player at the position in more than a decade. Also back is senior running back Rob Terry, whose 938 rushing yards placed second in the MAAC last season. Those two will be protected by an offensive line that veteran coach Fred Mariani believes will be the best in school history. Defensively, cornerback Tom Lagomarsino is the top returning tackler (51 last season).

After back-to-back one-victory seasons, **Siena** (1-6, 1-8) looks poised to do better this year. Junior Christian Karolus, a two-year starter at quarterback, not only has a strong arm but uses his 6-2, 230-pound body to be an effective power runner. Sophomores Robert Prince, the starting tailback, and Khalid Rice, a wide receiver, are two of the MAAC's better athletes. Dan Smacchia, a senior linebacker, is one of the conference's top defensive players.

Canisius (1-6, 1-8) is 5-30 in the MAAC over the last five years, and enters this season with some relatively young key players. Freshmen Adam Fatzinger and Tony Bonura shared quarterbacking duties last year and will battle again for that position. Sophomore Eric Mitchell, who had a 209-yard game against Marist in 2001, is the likely starter at tailback. Tom Perkovich, a 6-5, 275-pounder and three-year basketball team walk-on, keys the offensive line. The Golden Griffins, though, need to shore up on defense after giving up 40.4 points per contest last season.

La Salle (2-4, 5-4) has a new coach in former assistant Archie Stalcup, who served under previous head man Bill Manlove. Manlove directed the program for the last four seasons and had 212 career victories in a 31-year career. Stalcup inherits a team that suffered heavy graduation losses. Among the key returnees are sophomore running back Jeff Fletcher and linebackers Rob McIntosh and Jason Zurn.

St. John's (1-9) joins the MAAC after playing last season in the Northeast Conference, closing out the year with a school-record eight straight losses and recording just the fifth losing season in coach Bob Ricca's 24-year tenure. On top of that, it suffered some offseason transfer losses, including standout QB Kyle Lauver. Back, though, is senior Matt May, who led the NEC with 60 catches last year. ■

Predictions

1. Duquesne
2. St. Peter's
3. Fairfield
4. Marist
5. Iona
6. Siena
7. Canisius
8. La Salle
9. St. John's

Top players

OFFENSE: Niel Loebig, QB, Duquesne
DEFENSE: Leigh Bodden, DB, Duquesne
NEWCOMER: Robert Healy, OL, Duquesne

Games to watch

Duquesne at St. Peter's, October 12
Marist at St. Peter's, October 26
St. Peter's at Fairfield, November 2
Fairfield at Duquesne, November 16

It's Albany's turn in NEC.

BY STEVE AMEDIO
SCHENECTADY (NY) DAILY GAZETTE

Since its inception in 1996, the Northeast Conference could always count on Robert Morris, with the certainty of death and taxes, to win its championship.

Until last season, that is.

The Colonials rejoined the ranks of the mortals in 2001, losing their conference opener to eventual titlist Sacred Heart as well as two other non-league games. It marked the end of a five-year run in which the Joe Walton-coached team either won or shared the NEC crown.

Now, the only certainty in the NEC is that there isn't any.

Any of four or five teams will contend for the regular-season title, although that kind of parity makes it likely there won't be a dominant team like the Colonials, or like Sacred Heart, which finished a perfect 11-0 last season.

Based on pure talent, Albany's Great Danes, with seven returning first- or second-team All-NEC players, look more than capable of winning the conference title.

Entering his 29th season as head coach, Bob Ford (170-108 career record) has produced some strong individual talent and gaudy season records at **Albany** (7-3 overall last season, 5-2 NEC). But Ford has some of the best talent in the history of his program this year, and that could help produce one of the team's best seasons. Back are three NEC first-teamers in linebacker Josh Bazan (the league's top returning tackler with 100 last year), defensive back Samson Brown (four interceptions) and bruising 6-1, 295-pound offensive lineman Alex Argulewicz. The Great Danes have two other big, key offensive linemen returning in 6-6, 285-pound Geir Gudmundsen and 6-2, 270-pound Regan Jones. Defensively, lineman John Bolt, a 6-4, 250-pounder, is outstanding. Albany is set at quarterback, too, with senior Ryan Roeder (1,019 passing yards). The only real question is at running back, but senior Jon George should step up. His 5.3 yards-per-carry average in a reserve role led the team last year.

Last year's one league loss and two more against non-conference opponents is about as low as it goes for **Robert Morris** (6-3, 6-1), which could easily improve on those marks this season. Although the Colonials' quarterback, NEC Offensive Player of the Year Tim Levcik, has graduated, that only means the offense will fall even more to 5-9, 190-pound senior running back Sam Dorsett (a league-best 129.6 rushing yards per game), which isn't necessarily a bad thing. Junior Kevin Wachhaus, a 6-4, 265-pound offensive lineman, opens holes for Dorsett, and junior tight end Brent Hockenberry (39 catches for 661 yards) adds some versatility to the offense. Defensive back Corey Oaks brings toughness to the defense, and kicker/punter Jeff Carlo is the NEC's best at those tasks.

What can **Sacred Heart** (8-0 NEC) do for an encore after a perfect season? Duplicating that isn't likely, but the Pioneers won't drop off much, even with a new head coach. Bill Lacey replaces Jim Fleming (now an assistant at North Carolina), but Lacey was the offensive coordinator last season as the team put up a league-best 40.9 points per game. While Sacred Heart took some graduation hits offensively, Lacey's schemes should continue to put points on the board. A top-notch defense, anchored by returning NEC Defensive Player of the Year Kayode Mayowa, a linebacker, and defensive back Blake Neri (a league-best six interceptions in 2001) will help keep opponents' points off the board.

A defense that ranked second in the conference carried **Monmouth** (7-3, 5-2) to rare heights last season, and gives the Hawks a chance to at least duplicate that kind of success. Linemen Chris Ammacher and Sean Kerr, both quick 240-pounders, earned all-conference honors last year and are back to spearhead the defense again. Senior quarterback Bill Rankin (149.5 passing yards per game) runs the offense. Senior Chad Smith will likely be the featured running back. Senior kicker Ryan Peterson scored 52 points last season, a school record for a placekicker.

Wagner (3-6, 3-5) suffered through its first losing season since 1978 in 2001. But the Seahawks should get back on the winning side, and might even be a dark-horse title contender if sophomore quarterback Chris Spina, who had a strong relief effort in a season-ending loss at San Diego, can emerge. The team's other major offensive weapon is junior tailback Chris Davis (69.7 rushing yards per game). Defensively, linebacker Jeremy Balina is among the best in the NEC. His 27 tackles for loss in 2001 were one short of the conference's single-season record.

Stony Brook (3-6, 3-5) closed the doors on Seawolves Field with a 34-0 victory over St. Francis last year, but it isn't likely to have a season full of similar results in its new 8,000-seat facility. Still, back-to-back victories at the end of the season provide some optimism. Senior linebacker Aden Smith leads the defense after a single-season school record of 112 tackles last year. Senior quarterback Scott Bard is the league's most prolific passer, averaging 243.3 yards per game in seven contests last season.

Experience gained by a young team a year ago could start producing positive results this season for **Central Connecticut State** (2-7, 2-5). The Blue Devils got better as last season progressed behind a freshman quarterback (Scott Dolch) and two solid freshman wide receivers (Nick Dresko and Joe Holderman). Dolch finished with 1,113 passing yards, while Dresko had 37 catches, eighth best in the NEC. They'll get plenty of offensive help from senior running back Clinton Dunston (761 rushing yards in 2001). Defensively, junior linebacker Travis Lewis and lineman Brian Ward will help fill the void left by graduated linebacker Ian Whittingham, whose 350 career tackles is the NEC's all-time best mark.

St. Francis (Pennsylvania) was the NEC's youngest team last year, and it showed with an 0-10, 0-7 ledger. But the growing pains that have produced 24 straight losses over the past three seasons should start easing some this year and beyond. At least, that's what new coach Dave Opfar hopes after replacing Dave Jaumotte, who was 2-30 in three years. Sophomore quarterback Kevin McCray threw for 902 yards last season, providing some hope for a better future. ■

Predictions

1. Albany
2. Robert Morris
3. Sacred Heart
4. Monmouth
5. Wagner
6. Stony Brook
7. Central Connecticut
8. St. Francis (Pa.)

Top players

OFFENSE: Sam Dorsett, RB, Robert Morris
DEFENSE: Kayode Meyowa, LB, Sacred Heart
NEWCOMER: Shawn Miller, WR, Albany

Games to watch

Albany at Sacred Heart, September 21
Robert Morris at Sacred Heart, October 5
Monmouth at Wagner, October 26
Albany at Robert Morris, November 2

Memories of tourney snub should give talented EKU incentive bonus.

BY C.L. BROWN
THE (LOUISVILLE) COURIER-JOURNAL

The Ohio Valley Conference champion has emerged with a perfect league record in 10 of the past 11 seasons. But an undefeated run through the league isn't likely this season.

Although Eastern Illinois and Eastern Kentucky have edged their way above the pack, one clearly dominating presence simply doesn't exist. Should Eastern Illinois not repeat as champion the conference will crown its fourth different winner in as many seasons.

The balance of the conference showed in the final I-AA Top 25 poll of last season. Three OVC teams were ranked, led by No. 9 Eastern Illinois, followed by Eastern Kentucky at No. 18 and No. 23 Tennessee Tech.

Despite having teams recognized in the polls, the league is looking to gain more respect when it comes to postseason bids. For the fourth time in the past five seasons the OVC did not place an at-large team in the I-AA playoffs.

Despite its second-place finish in the conference and only a four-point loss to OVC champ Eastern Illinois, **Eastern Kentucky** (8-2 overall, 5-1 OVC) was omitted from last season's I-AA playoffs. Don't think the Colonels forgot about it.

It may be one of the reasons coach Roy Kidd returned for his 39th season at the school. Kidd, 70, became just the eighth NCAA coach to win his 300th career game last season. This Colonel team could ride him to glory.

The offense returns quarterbacks Travis Turner and Toki McCray, who shared duties throughout the season. Turner emerged with an edge as the starter late last season. Whether it's Turner or McCray calling signals, the EKU quarterback will spend a great deal of time handing off to C.J. Hudson. The sophomore tailback was a first-team All-OVC selection as a freshman, gaining a conference-best 1,221 yards rushing in only nine games.

OVC Defensive Player of the Year Yeremiah Bell is the heart of the Colonels' defense. Bell, a senior free safety, led the conference with six interceptions and was the team's leading tackler for the second straight season. EKU led the conference in team defense and ranked seventh nationally, but has to replace its entire starting linebacker corps to continue to be the OVC's best.

You can't mention the league's best without saying "Romo." Two-time Offensive Player of the Year Tony Romo aims to make **Eastern Illinois** (9-2, 6-0) the conference's first repeat champion since Tennessee State won back-to-back titles in 1998 and 1999. The Panthers, who won their first OVC title since joining the league in 1996, are eyeing more than just a conference title. Although they finished ninth in the final I-AA poll, the Panthers are trying to make a run in the playoffs after their second straight first-round exit.

Romo, a senior quarterback, could also become the first player to win the league's highest offensive honor three consecutive seasons. Romo led the nation in passing efficiency last season, bolstered by his 21 touchdown passes against only six interceptions.

The Panthers led the conference in points scored and should again post big numbers. Senior tailback J.R. Taylor, who rushed for 1,177 yards and 18 touchdowns, will help keep pressure on opposing defenses by bringing balance to the Panthers' attack.

Offensively, all the pieces are there for **Murray State** (4-6, 2-4). Junior quarterback Stewart Childress is back. So are leading rushers Billy Blanchard and Garner Byars. Top receiver Marcus Christon and four starters on the offensive line return as well.

The Racers took a step backward in its second season under coach Joe Pannunzio but look to make up for it this year. Murray's output dropped from scoring 33.3 points per game in 2000 to just 21.4 last season. Receiver Deandre Green, a transfer from Auburn, could help the Racers return to their high-octane ways.

Defensively, Murray returns seven starters, but still has much improving to do. The Racers have allowed more than 400 yards per game each of the last two seasons. Help is on the way in the form of Marcus Johnson (6-1, 270 pounds), who also transferred from Auburn.

Tennessee Tech (7-3, 4-2) won't have to worry about maturity on its defense. D.J. Bleisath, a 6-foot-5 senior end, anchors a unit that returns eight starters. Bleisath led the nation with 24 tackles for loss last season, and was second in I-AA with 10 sacks. Tech's biggest question mark is at quarterback, where sophomore Robert Craft is the heir apparent.

Tennessee State (8-3, 3-3) has cultivated some of the league's best offensive talent over the past five seasons. But the Tigers will open 2002 with their third different starting quarterback in as many years. Sophomores Kenny Irby, Bryson Rosser and Riley Walker each headed into spring practice with a chance to win the starting role.

The Tigers won't be short-handed or inexperienced otherwise. Sophomore tailback Charles Anthony led the team with 728 yards rushing last season. The top three receivers return in C.J. Johnson (50 receptions, 910 yards), Patrick Jenkins (44, 559) and Ron Jackson (30, 496).

Southeast Missouri (4-7, 1-5) quarterback Jeromy McDowell only figures to improve in his sophomore season. McDowell set a school record with 2,051 yards passing last year, becoming just the third SEMO quarterback to eclipse the 2,000-yard mark.

McDowell will have plenty of help with his top two receivers also returning. Willie Ponder ranked 11th in I-AA, averaging 6.4 receptions per game. Adrian Sanders caught 42 passes for 684 yards and gives McDowell another experienced target.

The struggle continues at **Tennessee-Martin** (1-10, 0-6), where coach Sam McCorkle's rebuilding project enters its third season. McCorkle has his system firmly in place; now he needs the talent to pull the Skyhawks out of the OVC's cellar. Although 5-foot-7 junior Robert Hines has been the starting quarterback his first two seasons, freshmen Chad Nash (6-0, 190) and Brady M. Wahlberg (6-1, 175) will make a push for his job. ■

Predictions

1. Eastern Kentucky
2. Eastern Illinois
3. Murray State
4. Tennessee Tech
5. Tennessee State
6. Southeast Missouri
7. Tennessee-Martin

Top players

OFFENSE: Tony Romo, QB, Eastern Illinois
DEFENSE: Yeremiah Bell, S, Eastern Kentucky
NEWCOMER: Deandre Green, WR, Murray State

Games to watch

Murray State at Memphis, August 31
Eastern Kentucky at Eastern Illinois, October 12
Tennessee Tech at Murray State, October 12
Murray State at Eastern Kentucky, October 19
Eastern Kentucky at Tennessee Tech, October 26
Eastern Illinois at Murray State, November 23

'Big 1-2' set to battle again.

BY ED LAUBACH
EASTON (PA) EXPRESS-TIMES

Around the Patriot League, they're known as the "Big 1-2." Lehigh and Colgate have either won or shared the regular-season championship the last five years. That's not about to change, even though perennial cellar-dweller Fordham made a mad dash from worst to third in a 7-4 season, the Rams' first winning campaign in 13 years.

"We're all chasing the Big 1-2," Fordham coach Dave Clawson says. "Everybody has the pieces. Which one of us can knock them off is the story every year."

So far, that's been only Bucknell—in 1996.

Lehigh probably has the talent advantage this year, but Colgate expects to be with the Mountain Hawks every step of the way—right up to when they meet November 9 at Lehigh, which has won three of the last four meetings.

Chad Schwenk's decision to go home, to transfer after two losing seasons at Rutgers, means **Lehigh** is set at quarterback for two more years. The Mountain Hawks are stocked with quality athletes across the board, beginning with a pair of first-team all-league players—defensive tackle Theo Moss and center Jeff Santacroce. Moss tied for the league lead with eight sacks and had 12 tackles for loss. Matt Salvaterra, who will move from cornerback to strong safety, and placekicker Brian Kelley were second-team All-Patriot players last fall.

Injuries hastened Jermaine Pugh's rise to starting tailback. Pugh led the team in rushing and was the league's most effective punt returner, bringing back two for touchdowns and averaging 14.7 yards.

Chief among coach Pete Lembo's few concerns is how fast Schwenk grasps a complicated offense.

Colgate appears to be one victory—over Lehigh—from winning the league championship. A three-point loss to the Mountain Hawks cost it a share of the title last season. Otherwise, the Red Raiders are poised to go all the way with 17 returning starters, including three first-team all-league players—tailback Nate Thomas, tight end John Frieser and free safety Ameer Riley.

Thomas rushed for 808 yards last season, while quarterback Tom McCune passed for 1,965 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Acknowledging there can be no league championship without a victory over Lehigh, **Bucknell** coach Tom Gadd will take his best shot with a stout defense and returning quarterback Todd Wenrich. Wenrich passed for 2,327 yards and 12 touchdowns last season.

Wenrich will throw to Jim Horan, a second-team all-league wideout who caught 59 balls for 714 yards. Albert Marquardt, another wide receiver, caught 41 passes. The Bison are breaking in a new tailback and four players on the offensive line.

Gadd says nose guard Adam Lord is the best defensive lineman he has had in his eight seasons and Joe Massey the best rushing lineman. The two combined for 13 sacks and were first-team All-Patriot players last fall. "Lord," Gadd says, "can dominate a game."

Holy Cross appears destined for another middle-of-the-pack finish despite the return of senior quarterback Brian Hall, who seized the starting job halfway through his freshman season, and linebacker David Dugan, whose 100 tackles make him the leading returning tackler in the league. Defensive tackle Nicholas Soivilien, cornerback Gary Bordelon and offensive tackle Ross Sullivan all return after season-ending injuries last preseason. Defensive end Chinua Melton, who led the league with four recovered fumbles and ranked fourth with 14 tackles for loss, leads the defense. Coach Dan Allen expects to field a more athletic club but one that will have an abundance of sophomores in the mix.

Fordham is still riding high after last year's surprising 7-4 mark, the school's first winning record since its Division III days in 1988.

The Rams return a surplus of talent at the offensive skill positions and should be strong defensively with end Colby Kuhns (eight sacks, 16 tackles for loss) and a veteran secondary. Matt Fordyce, a second-team all-league punter two years ago who sat out last season, is a special-teams weapon, as is Javarus Dudley, the league's leading kickoff returner and No. 2 receiver in 2001 with 68 catches for 1,053 yards and nine touchdowns. Tailback Kirwin Watson was the Patriot's only 1,000-yard rusher last fall.

Towson expected to stumble a bit last fall after compiling back-to-back 7-4 seasons, but its final 3-7 mark did not seem like an alternative. Graduation losses were compounded by injuries, personal problems and academic woes.

Wideout Jamal White, who sat out last season after breaking his left ring finger near the end of preseason camp, heads the list of returning players. White, who caught a school-record 82 passes for 1,322 yards as a sophomore, needs 24 catches to become Towson's career receiving leader.

Cornerback Reggie Danage, a Villanova transfer, and defensive end Steve Nance, who was third in the league last year with eight sacks, are players to watch on defense.

With five consecutive losing seasons and no winner since 1993, look for more of the same from **Lafayette**, which should light it up offensively but struggle without the ball.

The Leopards begin with quarterback Marko Glavic, who led the league with 246 passing yards per game, completing 211 of 373 throws for 2,460 yards. Wideout John Weyrauch was third in Patriot receiving yards (889). Chris Royle was the first-team all-league center and Kevin Moss a second-team offensive tackle. Tailback Joe McCourt was named the Patriot's Rookie of the Year after rushing for 731 yards and catching 22 passes. But third-year coach Frank Tavani's club is practically starting from scratch on defense, with only four starters back.

Outscored by an average 37-10 in its first Patriot League season, **Georgetown** made linemen a priority when it set out on the recruiting trail.

"That's been the major difference," coach Bob Benson says of his team's switch from the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference to the Patriot. "It's a different level in the trenches."

Wide receiver is the team's best position. Luke McArdle (41 catches, 511 yards), Trenton Hillier (37, 395) and Melvin Jones, a transfer from Hofstra, offer strong possibilities in the passing game. ■

Predictions

1. Lehigh
2. Colgate
3. Bucknell
4. Holy Cross
5. Fordham
6. Towson
7. Lafayette
8. Georgetown

Top players

OFFENSE: Tom McCune, QB, Colgate
DEFENSE: Matt Salvaterra, SS, Lehigh
NEWCOMER: Chad Schwenk, QB, Lehigh

Games to watch

Colgate at Fordham, September 14
Colgate at Bucknell, October 5
Lehigh at Fordham, November 2
Colgate at Lehigh, November 9
Bucknell at Lehigh, November 16

Sky's the limit for the Flyers.

BY SEAN P. HAYDEN
THE TIMES OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

How important are seniors? Jacksonville will find out this season, while Davidson is hoping to. The Dolphins made it to last season's Pioneer Football League title game in their first year in the league, riding the coattails of a large senior class. This year the rebuilding begins. It was the same scenario a year ago for Davidson, which went young with an eye towards the next two seasons. Look for the Wildcats to make a push to the top of the South Division.

The North will follow a familiar path—Dayton will destroy everyone in its path. Mike Kelly has built one of the top I-AA programs in the country on two simple premises: you run the football and you stop the guy who has it.

North Division

If you thought the **Dayton** Flyers were tough to score on last season—when they surrendered a tad more than two TDs a game—wait until you get a load of them now.

All-America candidate Mark Kasmer is one of two all-conference players returning in the secondary, along with Aaron Furman. Kasmer was second in the nation with nine interceptions last season, returning three for scores. Other defensive standouts returning include linebacker Tyler Bowersock and linemen Andy Bentley and Trent Karn. Junior running back Tony Hurps led the conference in scoring last season and is back, along with quarterback Kelly Spiker, who may take on a larger part of the offense.

San Diego's push to the upper half of the North Division last year was fueled by a slew of seniors who must be replaced by coach Kevin McGarry. The news isn't all bad for McGarry, though, as Kenny Villalobos and Philip Thrash, the team's top two rushers, are back, as is junior quarterback Eric Rasmussen. Rasmussen was second in the league in both passing efficiency and total offense.

Butler has to figure out a way to shore up a defense that gave up more than 32 points per game last year. Several key producers return, so the potential is there. Junior Brandon Martin led the team with five interceptions as a sophomore, while contributors Lou Capizzi, Russ Mann and Joel Rush are still around.

The Bulldogs' high-powered offense turned the ball over an average of three times a game last year, but returns All-PFL selections Roman Speron in the backfield and wideout Kyle Derickson. Coach Ken LaRose needs to find a replacement for stalwart QB DeWayne Ewing, who threw for 2,400 yards last season.

The straw that stirs the drink for **Drake** is senior quarterback Ira Vandever, who put up big numbers in 2001. Vandever is a true double-threat and led the Bulldogs in passing and rushing yardage last year.

Defensively, the Bulldogs lost a bunch from a unit that ranked at the bottom of the league statistically, which will put a lot of pressure on the offense to produce. Linebacker Adam Lackey is promising, having led the Bulldogs in sacks as a sophomore.

It all came crashing down around **Valparaiso** last year, one season removed from a league title. Injuries and uncertainty at the quarterback spot plagued coach Tom Horne all season. The situation heading into the fall doesn't look a whole lot better, as the three primary signal-callers from last year have moved on, meaning Valpo will be unproven behind center. Sophomore Rob Giancola, who led the squad in receiving yards, returns with sophomore running back Chris Daniels on offense.

South Division

Davidson will be making a lot of noise with its defense this season, returning a dozen or so impact players on that side of the ball. Leading the way is senior linebacker Jim Carney, who racked up 96 tackles, including 11 for losses last season, and defensive backs Adam and Graham Elmore. Ryan Tennis and Scott McDonald combined for 12.5 sacks last season.

Quarterbacks Paul Nichols and Andrew Pickens split time behind center last season, and both are back. Sophomore John Leverett returns in the backfield. Junior Barrett Johnson led the team in receptions and spearheads a nice receiving corps that also includes Randall Hardy, Mike Chase and Chris Caison.

It took **Morehead State** until the fifth week last season to pick up a win, and it still rebounded for a 6-5 season. The Eagles backfield-by-committee has fullbacks David White, Nick Wooldridge and Nick Covin and halfbacks Greg Williams and Eli Parkes all returning intact for coach Matt Ballard. Junior signal-caller David Caudill also returns.

A pair of all-conference picks return on defense in linebacker Zac Prewitt and defensive back Brandon Phillips. Prewitt racked up 108 tackles last season while Phillips led the team with five interceptions.

Jacksonville enjoyed its first season in the PFL, winning the South before losing to Dayton in the inaugural title game. Then came the biggest loss—that of five All-PFL selections the Dolphins must somehow replace.

Tailback Brent Alexander is gone after being the only player in the league to top 1,000 yards rushing last season. Senior Emmett Akins steps in for Alexander. Both quarterbacks have graduated, but receiver Jon Turner and tight end Andrew Bianchi return along with all-conference offensive lineman Kevin Womble.

Sure, there were seven losses a season ago for **Austin Peay State**, but they came by an average of three points as the Governors were winless in their first PFL season. Hoping to turn those close ones in their favor this season, the Govs have all-conference back Jay Bailey returning to the fold after rushing for nearly 900 yards and seven TDs last season. Peay needs to fill in at both the quarterback and wide receiver spots, however, after losing its top two producers there from a year ago. The Govs have a pair of ball hawks returning in the secondary in sophomore Corey Phillips and senior Thomas Sexton, who each snagged five interceptions last season. ■

Predictions

NORTH DIVISION	SOUTH DIVISION
1. Dayton	1. Davidson
2. San Diego	2. Morehead State
3. Butler	3. Jacksonville
4. Drake	4. Austin Peay State
5. Valparaiso	

Top players

OFFENSE: Ira Vandever, QB, Drake
DEFENSE: Mark Kasmer, DB, Dayton
NEWCOMER: Mike Sturgill, QB, Jacksonville

Games to watch

Dayton at Butler, October 5
Morehead State at Davidson, October 5
Dayton at San Diego, November 16
PFL Title Game, November 23

Shuffled deck should benefit Apps.

BY STAN OLSON
THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

The Southern Conference spent the offseason losing two high-profile coaches and one oh-so-low-profile football program, and we'll start with the latter first.

Virginia Military Institute, a member of the league since 1924, decided it was tired of having its football teams annually clobbered by the rest of the league, and opted to jump to the Big South instead. The Keydets will still be cannon fodder this fall and possibly in 2003 as well—unless the SC can find a suitable replacement.

At the other end of the standings, the league celebrated the meeting of two of its best in the NCAA I-AA national semifinals, with Furman coming out a 24-17 winner at Georgia Southern. The Paladins went on to lose to Montana in the title game, and then both SC schools lost their coaches.

The Paladins' Bobby Johnson is taking over at Vanderbilt, while the Eagles' Paul Johnson moves on to Navy. Those 10-win seasons will be a bit harder to come by now, fellas.

Both programs promoted from within, with Furman turning to longtime assistant Bobby Lamb and Georgia Southern opting for Mike Sewak.

We've said this before, but this really, really, really might be **Appalachian State's** year to dominate this league. The Mountaineers are always good, of course (9-4 and 6-2 in the league last season), but they're usually looking up at some other family member by season's end.

While the Apps will be their usual sturdy selves defensively this fall, the key to a breakthrough is probably senior QB Joe Burchette, who could become ASU's all-time leading passer with a solid 2002. Burchette was the only league passer to top 2,000 yards last season.

The defense will be solid again after finishing ninth nationally in total defense and leading the league with 32 sacks. A dozen of the latter belonged to defensive end Josh Jeffries.

Are we crazy? We can't pick **East Tennessee State** ahead of Georgia Southern and Furman. Those guys always finish ahead of ETSU.

Maybe not this year. While the traditional powers regroup under new management, coach Paul Hamilton's Buccaneers (6-5, 4-4) return all 11 defensive starters from a team that actually beat GSU a year ago.

ETSU scored 14 or fewer points five times in 2002, but maybe the winner of the QB battle that features Jatavis Sanders, DeShannon Gamble and Virginia Tech transfer Jason Davis will provide a little offense.

New coach Kent Briggs could be the beneficiary of a breakthrough season at **Western Carolina**. The Catamounts were already pretty good last year (7-4, 5-3). Six of the top seven tacklers return, including Nick McNeil (11 sacks) at defensive end.

The offense is also experienced—all 11 starters are back—and starts with tailback Fred Boateng, who produced 1,225 rushing yards and 12 TDs in 2001.

The **Georgia Southern** Eagles (12-2, 7-1) find themselves unlikely to extend their streak of winning or sharing five straight SC titles. Fullback Adrian Peterson, the league's Offensive Player of the Year, is gone, as is all-conference QB J.R. Revere. New coach Sewak, GSU's former offensive coordinator, has a lot of regrouping to do.

He's not expected to change the Eagles' ground-oriented attack or 4-3 defensive alignment, but he has to find some folks to run them. Peterson's replacement is expected to be sophomore Hakim Ford, who had 170 rushing yards in 2001.

All-America tackle Freddy Pesqueira (128 tackles) anchors the defense.

Will the **Furman** Paladins lead their Lamb to slaughter just a year after their near miss at a national title?

Nah, they won't be that bad. But, since five of their six All-Americas are gone, they won't be 12-3 again, either. The losses of tailback Louis Ivory and middle linebacker Will Bouton are most noticeable, but the departure of three all-conference performers on the offensive line may be more damaging. Who's going to protect solid QB Billy Napier, who completed 129 of 207 passes for 1,772 yards a year ago? The defense, superb in 2001, lost seven All-SC picks.

Wofford's dramatic decline last year (7-4 to 4-7) can be attributed to two last-minute losses—Chattanooga and Western Carolina. If the Terriers win the close ones this time, they may reverse that reversal.

Senior Nick Haughey will probably replace the graduated Travis Wilson at QB, but inexperience there will be offset by the return of Wofford's top three rushers from a unit that gained 264 yards a game on the ground. Coach Mike Ayers will look first to Melvin Jones, who gained 905 yards and scored 10 TDs.

Ellis Johnson's first year coaching **The Citadel** was a struggle (3-7, 2-6), but there was noticeable improvement, particularly on defense, where the Bulldogs chopped their points allowed from 30.5 to 18.3 per game. That could continue to improve, especially if 6-7, 248-pound basketballer Cliff Washburn sticks with his plan to play defensive end next fall. Johnson thinks he has NFL potential.

If there is such a thing as an injury jinx, **Chattanooga's** Mocs (3-8, 1-7) were its poster children last season. Chattanooga suffered six season-ending injuries to key players, and the result was a late six-game losing streak.

Quarterback wasn't part of the injury disaster; it was just a disaster, as five players spent time in the pocket while coach Donnie Kirkpatrick searched for a consistent signal-caller. Three of them return, but Ryan McCann, a senior transfer from UCLA who had a number of starts for the Bruins before being injured, appears to be the answer.

The defense will be built around senior linebacker Josh Cain, who led the SC in tackles last season with 128.

Don't expect **VMI**, which could be gone after this year, to go out with a flourish. It was 1-10 a year ago, and more of the same is likely, despite the addition of coordinator Johnny Burnett to help shore up last season's dismal defense (40.5 ppg). He'll have a veteran unit; 10 of VMI's top 12 tacklers are back. ■

Predictions

1. Appalachian State
2. East Tennessee St.
3. Western Carolina
4. Georgia Southern
5. Furman
6. Wofford
7. The Citadel
8. Chattanooga
9. VMI

Top players

OFFENSE: Joe Burchette, QB, Appalachian State
DEFENSE: Freddy Pesqueira, DT, Georgia Southern
NEWCOMER: Ryan McCann, QB, Chattanooga

Games to watch

Appalachian State at Marshall, August 31
East Tennessee State at Western Carolina, September 28
Appalachian State at East Tennessee State, October 5
Western Carolina at Furman, October 5
Georgia Southern at Furman, November 9

'Year of Tailback' favors SHSU.

BY BILL SMITH

There aren't a lot of times the Newcomer of the Year is a senior, but Division I-A transfers were the story in the Southland Football League last season. With the departure of top-gun quarterbacks like Sam Houston State's former SMU Mustang, Josh McCown (SFL Player of the Year), and Northwestern State's former LSU Tiger, Craig Nall (Newcomer of the Year), the balance of power in the league is held by the programs with the most depth. McNeese State took the league's automatic NCAA bid by virtue of its win over Sam Houston after the two teams had shared the 2001 title. The Bearkats have high expectations this year, but the Cowboys, with top-flight tailback Vick King leading the way, once again have the overall edge.

The quarterback-dominated SFL of 2001 gives way to the "Year of the Tailback" in 2002. Four of the top five QBs are gone, leaving senior Reggie Stancil of Jacksonville State and junior Josh Son of Nicholls State as the returning veterans. Furthering the run-oriented theme, both Stancil and Son are better known for their rushing.

Coach Ron Randleman had to wait more than a decade for his second Southland title. He might not have to wait more than 12 months for his third. **Sam Houston State** joins the other top SFL teams in seeking a quarterback replacement with McCown's departure. Whoever becomes Randleman's new quarterback has one major advantage over his rivals: The Bearkats return the best offensive line. It's anchored by seniors Chase Denton, a 305-pound All-SFL first-team tackle, and Billy Williams, a 329-pound guard who made the second team.

While SHSU has talented rushers like fourth-year junior Joe Rauls (189 carries, 869 yards) to operate behind Denton and Williams, that's not enough to keep a top 10 offense rolling. Finding a new QB is the top priority for Randleman.

Defensively, Sam Houston looks for another key replacement for former SFL top defender Keith Davis. Senior Kelvin Randall was first-team All-SFL with seven sacks and 12 for losses.

Nine starters are back for **McNeese State** on offense. Like everyone else, the Cowboys need to find a quarterback. Lettermen Ryan Corcoran and Michael Allen were vying for the slot in the spring. Having an outside shot is California freshman Casey Clark, the only QB signee for coach Tommy Tate. The pressure on the quarterbacks is relieved by the return of tailback King, the team's leading rusher last season with 797 yards. There's also a stable of sure-handed receivers led by wideout Jermain Martin (41 catches, 674 yards) and tight end Jeff Hamilton (14, 132). Martin enters his senior year as the No. 2 receiver in McNeese history.

Where the Cowboys are really rebuilding is on defense. Only six starters are back from one of nation's top I-AA units (fourth in rushing defense and third in total defense).

Northwestern State coach Scott Stoker faces the opposite problem of McNeese and Sam Houston. The first-year head man might have too many quarterbacks. A pair of seniors—redshirt Ben Beach (1,521 yards passing, 10 TDs in 2000) and last year's reliever, Kevin Magee (382 yards last season)—will vie with sophomore transfer Chris Reil and redshirt freshman Gerard Barrow for the starting job. They won't be alone in trying to figure things out on offense, as only four starters return from an 8-4 playoff team.

On the defensive side, the coaching staff changed but the commitment to a 4-2-5 set did not. Eight returning starters led by senior All-America defensive end Ahmad Willis, cornerback Terrence McGee and linebacker Kurt Rodriguez are back.

The SFL hardly got to know coach Jack Crowe and his Gamecocks. Set to depart next year for the Ohio Valley Conference, **Jacksonville State** has the ground game to make some noise in its final season. The senior one-two punch of running back Rondy Rogers (1,447 rushing yards) and quarterback Reggie Stancil (109 carries, 450 yards) made JSU the No. 11 rushing team in I-AA. The Gamecocks certainly turned heads last season with their special teams. Richie Rhodes was the top punter in the league as a freshman, earning first-team honors, but it was Ashley Martin who made the headlines as the first female to kick an extra point in a Division I game.

Nicholls State gets the nod for most likely to improve, returning a third-year starter at quarterback in junior Son and running back Colt Colletti at the hub of a ground-oriented offense. For the second straight year, coach Daryl Daye produced the league's Freshman of the Year, defensive back LeJuan Walker, who ranked third in the nation in punt returns last season, averaging just over 30 yards per return. Another defensive back, Chris Thompson, ranked among the nation's leaders in interceptions.

Thin margins kept **Stephen F. Austin** from a breakout season. Now the Lumberjacks need to find a replacement for their All-SFL quarterback, Wes Pate. The offense now rests in the hands of young players like redshirt freshman quarterback Michael Williams and sophomore tailback Thomas Williams, the team's No. 2 rusher last season (64 carries, 250 yards). Sophomore Matt Williford (15 of 21, 134 yards) saw some time along with Michael Williams at quarterback last year behind Pate. One of the key adjustments on defense is the shifting of Michael Adams from end to linebacker as a part of new coordinator Kim Dameron's system. Defensive back David Crocker is one of the league's top pro prospects.

The most significant person on the bench for coach Bob DeBesse last year was his team physician, as **Southwest Texas State** literally took a beating. Starting with the loss of senior starting quarterback Reagan George in the opener, the Bobcats lost the most in the line. Reduced to scout players in some positions by year's end, SWT found a silver lining in extra playing time for young players on offense. As the offense struggled down the stretch, the defense rallied behind linebacker Greg Pitts. Pitts was second in the SFL in tackles as a junior, and is the anchor. A team better than a 4-7 finish last year, the Bobcats' six-game slide from a 4-1 start may actually provide the foundation for a return to the upper half of the league. ■

Predictions

1. Sam Houston State
2. McNeese State
3. Northwestern State
4. Jacksonville State
5. Nicholls State
6. Stephen F. Austin
7. Southwest Texas St.

Top players

OFFENSE: Rondy Rogers, RB, Jacksonville State
DEFENSE: David Crocker, DB, Stephen F. Austin
NEWCOMER: Casey Clark, QB, McNeese State

Games to watch

McNeese State at Nebraska, October 5
McNeese State at Sam Houston State, October 26
Sam Houston State at Northwestern State, November 2
McNeese State at Northwestern State, November 16

Veteran Schnellenberger looks to have Owls hooting at FAU.

BY KEN CROSS

Florida Atlantic: The venerable Howard Schnellenberger begins his second year at the helm of the Owls hoping to improve on last year's 4-6 record with four key returnees who should make their presence felt. Defensive back Mauratae Johnson recorded solo tackles on 48 of his 63 stops and will be the leader in a secondary that Schnellenberger hopes will record more than the three interceptions it did last season. The coaching staff is enamored of speedster Tyrone Higgins' potential at linebacker, where he finished third on the team in tackles last season. Chris Laskowski, a gritty player who calls the team's defensive signals, teams with Higgins to make linebacker a strength for FAU. Look for 6-3, 276-pound freshman Mark Chase to see time on the defensive line. Chase chose the Owls over Virginia Tech, Auburn, Rutgers and Miami.

Offensively, Florida Atlantic hopes to bolster a running game that averaged only 2.7 yards per rush in 2001. Sophomore Doug Parker will be Schnellenberger's feature back after rushing for 572 yards and nine touchdowns a year ago. Parker also was second on the team in reception yardage with 220 on 22 catches.

Southern Utah: The Thunderbirds are looking to regroup from a disappointing 2-9 season as 38 returning lettermen join 20 redshirts from a year ago. Coach C. Ray Gregory is hopeful that a new defensive coordinator, Steve Fex, may be the difference in improving SUU's abysmal defense, which gave up 26.9 points per game last season. The Thunderbirds hope to be able to close the first half in stronger fashion after being outscored 85-35 in the second quarter last year. The SUU secondary did pick off 12 passes last season, three by senior returnee Nick Ervin.

Southern Utah averaged 266.4 yards per game on offense in 2001 thanks to a running back-by-committee system in the T-Birds' option attack that allowed four backs to average at least 52 yards rushing per game. Junior quarterback Chuck Henderson is Gregory's leading returning rusher.

Samford: Bill Gray took over as interim coach of the Bulldogs on October 16 and engineered a 4-1 finish after Samford struggled to a 1-4 start. The interim tag was taken away from Gray's title in late November as Samford finished 5-5, with the Bulldogs' only loss under their new coach coming to powerful Eastern Kentucky. The team found its offensive niche under Gray, scoring more than 40 points in three of those contests.

Sophomore Jason Ogletree returns at running back, where he rushed for 693 yards on 113 attempts and five touchdowns to pace the ground game in 2001. Aryvia Holmes provides a strong complement to Ogletree at wide receiver. Holmes caught 74 passes for 1,042 yards last season. He set school records for receptions and yardage with single-game (12 receptions, 177 yards) and season (74, 1,042) marks.

Junior linebacker Derrick Wheeler returns to a Bulldog defense that looks to improve on the 4.5 yards per carry and 8.1 yards per catch it allowed opponents a year ago. Wheeler led the team in tackles with 120, which ranked 10th in I-AA.

Samford had only eight seniors on last year's squad, and will field an experienced team in its last season as a I-AA independent. The Bulldogs will play in the Ohio Valley Conference in 2003. Five matchups with future OVC foes and a date with Baylor dot this season's schedule.

St. Mary's (CA): Coach Tim Landis led the Gaels to a 6-5 campaign last year, which allowed St. Mary's to record back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1995-96. Landis' success was due, in part, to the Gaels' option offense that netted 279.7 yards per game to finish fourth in the nation in that category. St. Mary's rushed for more than 400 yards twice and more than 300 yards five times in 2001. Junior running back Andre Coleman returns to the offense after rushing for 930 yards and six touchdowns a year ago.

On defense, junior defensive backs Weston Borba and Greg Kavulich will anchor a secondary that accounted for 14 interceptions last season.

Morris Brown: The fortunes for the Wolverines in the upcoming season could be centered on senior QBs Kewan Dewberry and Stanley Hardy. The duo split time running the offense last year, with Hardy attempting more passes (154) but Dewberry completing 53.1 percent of his throws in Morris Brown's 5-6 season. Senior wide receiver Laquonne Holden will be the go-to guy in the passing game after amassing 791 yards on 44 receptions with five touchdowns.

The strength of Morris Brown's senior-laden defense will be against the pass, as Kwahena Randolph and Lemuel Mullins return to key the defensive backfield.

Savannah State: It has been a time of tumultuous transition for the Tigers. Coach Bill Davis, who was on his second tour of duty as Savannah State's coach, passed away with a heart attack in March. His offensive coordinator, Michael Wallace, was named interim coach.

Wallace will miss quarterback Jermaine Brooks, who led the offensive fortunes in last year's 2-7 campaign. Brooks' heir apparent is Mario Spencer, who completed 37 of 102 passes last season in spot duty. He may be challenged by 6-3, 180-pound freshman Clyde Tullis, who led his Americus, Georgia, high school team to state championships in each of the past two seasons. Receiving will be the team's offensive strength, with senior Damon Thomas (38 receptions. 57.8 yards receiving per game) returning to lead that corps.

Senior safety Ryan James, who had 24 tackles last season, is the top returning defender.

The 2002 campaign will be the Tigers' first in I-AA after spending the past three seasons as a Division II independent.

Cal Poly: After a trio of three-win seasons, Rich Ellerson led the Mustangs to a 6-5 campaign last year, his first at Cal Poly, thanks to an aggressive defense that ranked sixth in the I-AA ranks with a plus-1.60 turnover margin that was accompanied by 17 quarterback sacks and 34 tackles for loss. Sophomore linebacker Jordan Beck anchors the defense after accounting for 73 tackles last season.

Offensively, graduation claimed Mustang quarterback Seth Burford, who provided most of the ground attack. Redshirt senior Kevin Cooper and junior Chris Peterson will battle for Burford's spot. Petersen has the inside track after throwing seven touchdown passes and accumulating 247 yards rushing in Ellerson's option offense last season. ■

Top players

OFFENSE: Aryvia Holmes, WR, Samford
DEFENSE: Jordan Beck, LB, Cal Poly
NEWCOMER: Mark Chase, DE, Florida Atlantic

Games to watch

Savannah State vs. Bethune-Cookman (at Jacksonville, Fla.), September 3
Samford at Baylor, September 7
Morris Brown at Florida A&M, September 7
Cal Poly at Southern Utah, October 12

BLACK COLLEGE NATIONAL PREVIEW

Have senior gun, will travel

If history is a predictor, TCU transfer Casey Printers' arrival in Tallahassee should mean big things for Florida A&M.

By LUT WILLIAMS
Black College Sports Page

One look at last year's results in the four black college conferences shows that each of the champions had senior quarterbacks at the helm.

Grambling State (10-1) had Randy Hymes, who led coach Doug Williams' Tigers to a second straight Southwestern Athletic Conference title. Hymes was also the key man as the Tigers ended an eight-game Bayou Classic losing streak to Southern.

Darnell Kennedy completed his record-breaking career leading Alabama State (8-4) to the SWAC East Division championship. Grambling knocked off ASU in the SWAC title game.

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference champ Florida A&M (7-4) was led by two-year starter Quinn Gray, who guided Billy Joe's Rattlers to a sixth straight I-AA playoff berth.

Virginia Union (8-3) won its first Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association crown in 10 years and a spot in Pioneer Bowl V behind the leadership of Jasun Thompson.

Tuskegee (11-1), which won the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title and defeated Virginia Union in the Pioneer Bowl, had Aaron James, who led the Golden Tigers to a 42-6 record during his four-year career.

Even Tennessee State (8-3), the best of the independents, had senior Shannon Harris under center.

In fact, no team in the past couple of years has won any of the four conference titles without a seasoned veteran or established star at the controls. If that formula holds true, then count Bethune-Cookman, Florida A&M, Jackson State and Alcorn State among the best teams in 2002.

Bethune-Cookman returns multitalented All-MEAC signal-caller Allen Suber, who passed for 1,726 yards and ran for another 652 last year as the 6-4 Wildcats again challenged but fell short of a conference title. Suber can expect a hard trek to the title this season, as he'll face Howard, Hampton and N. C. A&T on the road. Waiting in the wings to spoil things is Florida A&M, the Wildcats' annual nemesis, whom they'll face on the season's final weekend.

BLACK COLLEGE TOP 20

1. Florida A&M
2. Jackson State
3. Bethune-Cookman
4. Grambling State
5. Tennessee State
6. Alcorn State
7. North Carolina A&T
8. Hampton
9. Southern
10. Tuskegee
11. South Carolina State
12. Alabama State
13. Texas Southern
14. Fort Valley State
15. Winston-Salem State
16. Virginia Union
17. Alabama A&M
18. Bowie State
19. Fayetteville State
20. Prairie View A&M

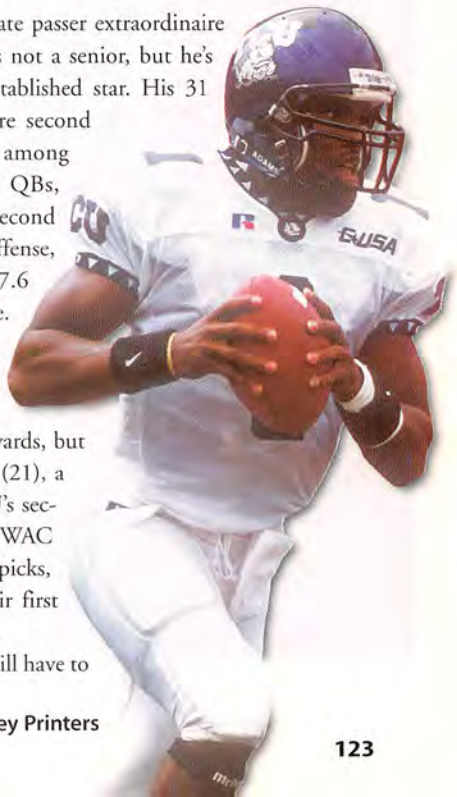
Florida A&M's Joe is known for taking the shortcut to QB mastery, employing four Division I transfers over the past six seasons to run his offense. He may have found the best yet in former Texas Christian standout Casey Printers.

The 6-3, 210-pounder started three years at TCU, throwing for 4,621 yards and 37 touchdowns, but became frustrated last year after new coaches installed a system not designed to showcase his passing skills. Prior to that, Printers was a potential Heisman Trophy candidate. He shouldn't have that problem (the passing one) in the Rattlers' pass-happy "Gulf Coast Offense," though he may have trouble getting Heisman consideration. You can perhaps even scratch that if Printers does something big when FAMU opens at defending NCAA champ Miami on August 31.

Though they don't sport high-profile quarterbacks, Hampton and North Carolina A&T are also solid contenders in the MEAC, as is resurgent South Carolina State.

Jackson State passer extraordinaire Robert Kent is not a senior, but he's certainly an established star. His 31 TD passes were second to Harris' 33 among black college QBs, and he was second in I-AA total offense, producing 347.6 yards per game. He topped the black college charts with 3,640 passing yards, but he also led in interceptions (21), a stat that contributed to JSU's second-place finish in the SWAC East. If he cuts down on the picks, the Tigers could sail to their first conference title since 1996.

One of the teams JSU will have to



Casey Printers

JOHN WILLIAMSON

contend with is Alcorn State, which rebounded from a winless 2000 season to finish 6-5 and challenge for the SWAC East title. Freshman quarterback Donald Carrie was the catalyst for coach Johnny Thomas, who finally seems to have gotten the Braves on track for a return to glory. Carrie trailed only Kent and Kennedy in SWAC passing and, more importantly, and has them buzzing with title talk on "The Reservation."

Southern joins Grambling and Alabama State as SWAC contenders trying to construct new quarterbacks.

Tuskegee, Morehouse (8-2) and Fort Valley State (8-3) were in a virtual dead heat for the SIAC title last year, but all will be without senior quarterbacks this time around. Morehouse may have lost something more important than quarterback Chivalrik Daughtry in head coach Anthony Jones, who resigned to take over the program at Alabama A&M.

Tuskegee, which has won 23 of its last 24 games, has to replace the (Aaron) James gang, which included 13 senior starters that produced two SIAC titles and three wins in four straight trips to the Pioneer Bowl. But don't count out coach Rick Comegys, who has reloaded with a stock of transfers and junior college products. Fort Valley State coach Kent Schoolfield hopes to keep pace if he can get an adequate replacement for QB Matt Davis and some other key offensive performers.

Virginia Union and Winston-Salem State have dominated the CIAA's East and West divisions, respectively, over the past three years utilizing talented senior playmakers. Their biggest challengers this year may be Bowie State (7-3) in the East and Fayetteville State (6-4) in the West. Both schools have revived their programs behind strong defensive units. If coaches Kenny Phillips (FSU) and Henry Frazier (Bowie State) add some offensive punch to their solid defenses, they could unseat VUU and WSSU.

Tennessee State was quite impressive last year, going undefeated against black college opponents Alabama A&M (27-6), Florida A&M (27-7), Howard (45-0) and Jackson State (64-33). Harris (3,008 passing yards, 26 TDs, six interceptions) was no small part of that. But the Blue Tigers struggled in their own Ohio Valley Conference, keeping them behind Tuskegee and Grambling in the year's final black college rankings.

Robert Kent

Coach James Reese hopes to replace Harris with someone who can keep up the offensive production. He'll know what he's got early on, as the Blue Tigers take on Jackson State in Memphis, Grambling in Las Vegas and Florida A&M in Atlanta on successive September weekends. If they emerge from that gauntlet unscathed, TSU could well be hoisting its flag atop the black college football mountain.

RETURN TO SENDER

These guys specialize in taking the ball back where it came from.

CURTIS DELOATCH, S/KR, Jr., North Carolina A&T: Deloatch scored on five punt returns to earn first-team I-AA All-America status. His scoring jaunts of 87, 79, 74, 46 and 65 yards helped produce a I-AA-best 26.5-yard average on 20 returns. But he didn't stop there. He also averaged 62 yards a return on four interceptions, two of them for scores (61 and 98 yards). Deloatch, a 6-foot-4, 200-pound safety, was the Aggies' second-best touchdown-maker.

JEFFREY STANTON, KR, Sr., Tuskegee: Stanton led the SIAC in kickoff returns, averaging 28 yards per opportunity. Stanton hit pay dirt with two punts (45 and 30 yards) and one kickoff (78 yards) after scoring on five punt returns in 2000.

ZURIEL SMITH, WR/KR, Sr., Hampton: Smith scored on four punt returns, three in one game. At the Meadowlands against Virginia State, he ran in punts of 67, 50 and 61 yards. A fourth of 66 yards was called back because of a penalty. His 49-yard game-winner against N. C. A&T effectively knocked the Aggies out of the MEAC title picture.

TERRY PATRICK, KR, Jr., Hampton: While Smith was taking three punts back against Virginia State for TDs, Terry was nearly doing the same with kickoffs. The MEAC season leader in kickoff returns (28.7 yards per return) had returns for 87- and 84-yard scores, giving the Pirates an NCAA-record five returns for TDs in one game.

RASHEAN MATHIS, S/KR, Jr., Bethune-Cookman: As a free safety, Mathis had four interceptions after getting 11 in his first year with the Wildcats. But as a punt returner, he picked up the slack, averaging 16 yards on 24 returns, including two for touchdowns. A third, which would have given the 'Cats a fourth-quarter lead against N. C. A&T, was called back.

Rashean Mathis

LOOKING FOR DAYLIGHT

With only one 1,000-yard rusher returning from last year's four major black college conferences, look for these players to get more work toward reaching that benchmark this season.

BRAD HILL, Sr., Grambling State (1,023 yards, 4.7 average, 12 TDs): The 5-10, 230-pounder was the first Tiger to rush for 1,000 yards since 1993. Hill is a tough runner who will be counted on for more this season.

LARRY EDWARDS, Soph., Virginia Union (857, 6.2, 7): His 107.1 yards per game and 6.2 yards per carry are tops among the returnees. Twice as many carries in coach Willard Bailey's run-oriented offense could produce twice as many yards.

JOHN HOLLOMAN, Sr., Winston-Salem State (690, 4.8, 10): Led the CIAA in scoring while leading the Rams to the conference title game. He provides the bulk, while teammate Vincent Wilkins has the speed.

TANAKA COUNSELOR, Sr., Jackson State (677, 4.9, 8): Little guy (5-9, 185 pounds) uses his 4.3 speed, quickness and surprising strength to elude tacklers. Begins this season as the starter after beginning last year as third on the depth chart.

KAMBUI MAXWELL, Sr., S.C. State (865, 4.3, 11): Typical Bulldog back who's great between the tackles, has outstanding balance and gets stronger as the game, or season, progresses.

CHARLES ANTHONY, Soph., Tennessee State (728, 5.5, 4): Averaged 5.5 yards on 132 carries as a freshman. At that rate, he needs just six more carries per game to break 1,000 yards.

THE LONG HAUL

One 1,000-yard receiver returns to black college football this season, Alcorn State's Kris Peters. Here are a few who missed out and have a shot of making it in '02.

KENNETH ROGERS, Sr., Morehouse (30 receptions, 746 yards, 4 TDs): Rogers' per-catch average of 24.9 was the highest in black college football, but his chances to raise those numbers hinge on Morehouse getting a quarterback to replace departed standout Chivalrik Daughtry.

CORTEZ HANKTON, Sr., Texas Southern (61, 941, 9): Hankton has more catches for more yards than any other returning receiver. And he's the only one with the same quarterback (Adam Lamb) throwing to him.

C. J. JOHNSON, Jr., Tennessee State (50, 910, 5): Speed is Johnson's forte. Getting the ball to him more than four times per game is the priority.

ZURIEL SMITH, Sr., Hampton (58, 732, 6): Reliable and elusive, Smith could be more of a go-to guy for the Pirates than he was last year when his 58 receptions tied for first among MEAC receivers.

MICHAEL HAYES, Sr., Southern (Injured in 2001): Big-time receiver's knee injury in first game of 2001 caused him to miss last season and his opportunity to impress the pro scouts. Another year of eligibility granted by the NCAA gives him another shot.

Michael Hayes

STARTING OVER

Two retirements, six firings or resignations and the rebirth of two programs bring new blood into the black college coaching ranks. These are the new guys and the tasks ahead of them.

TRACY HAM, Clark-Atlanta: The former star QB and I-AA Player of the Year at Georgia Southern, the most stable of I-AA programs, looks to bring some of that to the Panthers, who haven't had a winning season in 11 years.

Anthony Jones

WADE NASH (2)

WILLIE TOTTEN, Mississippi Valley State: Former record-setting QB at MVSU takes over at his alma mater from LaTraia Jones looking to produce the kind of offensive fireworks and results he engineered as a player.

ANTHONY JONES, Alabama A&M: In just just three years, Jones got Morehouse back among the SIAC's elite. He seems like the right guy to get the Bulldogs back on track after Ron Cooper's departure.

GEORGE JOHNSON, Livingstone: Johnson brings SIAC and black college national title credentials to the table from leading the Tuskegee defense. The Blue Bears just want to get back into CIAA title contention after four years under Greg Richardson.

RAY PETTY, Howard: The "oomph" had gone out of the Bison program under Steve Wilson. Petty, a former Howard and Norfolk State defensive coordinator, has the job to put it back in.

BUDDY POUGH, South Carolina State: Willie Jeffries' retirement spurred the Bulldogs to their first winning record in five years, giving SCSU alumnus and Lou Holtz aide Pough something to build on.

DONALD HILL, Morgan State: Hill led the Bears' offense long enough last year to produce 55 points and an upset of N.C. A&T. He'll have it full-time this season after replacing Stanley Mitchell.

ANDREW FAISON, Virginia State: Lou Anderson went into retirement with the Trojans on a downturn. Faison, the genius behind the Winston-Salem State defense, will have to lift the Trojans back to respectability.

GREGORY RUFFIN, Shaw: Ruffin, the pup of the litter at 26 years of age, leads the Bears on a club schedule while they get ready for CIAA play. Shaw has not fielded a football team since 1979.

MICHAEL COSTA, St. Augustine's: Costa jumps right into the fray, playing a full schedule in the Falcons' first grid season since 1967.

NON-CLASSIC CLASSICS

Classic games usually involve black colleges meeting at a neutral site. Once in a while, teams step outside the black college family to play in other classics. Here are four examples for the 2002 season:

BIG EASY CLASSIC
Southern vs. Tulane *August 31, New Orleans, Superdome*

VANPORT FOOTBALL CLASSIC
N. C. A&T at Portland State *September 14, Portland, Oregon*

RIVER CITY CLASSIC
Alabama State at Chattanooga *September 7, Chattanooga, Tennessee*

AZALEA CITY CLASSIC
Florida A&M vs. Troy State *November 9, Mobile, Alabama*

CLASSIC SHUFFLE

Add a couple of new Classic games, take away a couple of the old ones and pencil in some replacements.

SILVER DOLLAR CLASSIC
Grambling vs. Tennessee State *September 21, Las Vegas, Sam Boyd Stadium*

MIDWEST HERITAGE CLASSIC
Morehouse vs. Kentucky State *October 5, Columbus, Ohio, Crew Stadium*

NINTH AGGIE-EAGLE CLASSIC
N.C. A&T vs. N.C. Central *August 31, Charlotte, Ericsson Stadium*

SOUTHERN vs. FLORIDA A&M
This classic rivalry between these black college powerhouses lasted 55 years before film-exchange issues helped derail it. Thus ended the longest-running inter-conference rivalry in black college football.

SECOND PEACH STATE CLASSIC
S.C. State vs. N.C. A&T *November 23, Atlanta, Georgia Dome*
These guys used to meet in the Carolinas Classic in Charlotte. Charlotte's loss is Atlanta's gain.

PLAY IT AND THEY WILL COME

The Bayou Classic

The highest-attended games in black college football for 2001:

1. **Florida Classic**, *November 17, Orlando (Citrus Bowl)*
   Florida A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman—70,112
2. **Bayou Classic**, *November 24, New Orleans (Superdome)*
   Southern vs. Grambling State—67,435
3. **Atlanta Classic**, *September 22, Atlanta (Georgia Dome)*
   Florida A&M vs. Tennessee State—61,022
4. **Magic City Classic**, *October 27, Birmingham (Legion Field)*
   Alabama State vs. Alabama A&M—53,133
5. **Al Lipscomb Classic**, *September 29, Dallas (Cotton Bowl)*
   Grambling State vs. Prairie View—51,149
6. **Circle City Classic**, *October 6, Indianapolis (RCA Dome)*
   Howard vs. Tennessee State—51,060

STREET & SMITH'S BLACK COLLEGE ALL-AMERICA TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE
QB—**Robert Kent**, junior, Jackson State
RB—**Brad Hill**, senior, Grambling State
RB—**Larry Edwards**, sophomore, Virginia Union
WR—**Michael Hayes**, senior, Southern
WR—**Zuriel Smith**, senior, Hampton
TE—**Chris Coleman**, senior, Alabama State
OL—**Gary Jenkins**, senior, Southern
OL—**Kenneth Hughes**, senior, Tuskegee
OL—**Erk Steiner**, senior, Hampton
OL—**Kris Allen**, senior, Texas Southern
OL—**Marcus Ogden**, senior, Howard
PK—**Brian Morgan**, sophomore, Grambling State
P—**David Beckford**, senior, Alabama State

DEFENSE
DL—**Sean Kelly**, sophomore, Florida A&M
DL—**Steve Baggs**, junior, Bethune-Cookman
DL—**Willie Gray**, senior, Grambling State
DL—**Earl Cochran**, senior, Alabama State
LB—**Tracey White**, senior, Howard
LB—**Lernard Mack**, senior, Texas Southern
LB—**Jason Ocean**, senior, Livingstone
DB—**Santino Hall**, senior, Texas Southern
DB—**Ronald Smalls**, senior, Morehouse
DB—**Rashean Mathis**, senior, Bethune-Cookman
DB—**Tyrone Parsons**, junior, Alcorn State
KR—**Curtis Deloatch**, senior, North Carolina A&T

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE
QB—**Allen Suber**, junior, Bethune-Cookman
RB—**John Holloman**, senior, WInston-Salem State
RB—**Tanaka Counselor**, senior, Jackson State
WR—**Cortez Hankton**, senior, Texas Southern
WR—**Kenneth Rogers**, senior, Morehouse
TE—**Arnell Wooten**, sophomore, Winston-Salem State
OL—**Napoleon Joseph**, senior, Bethune-Cookman
OL—**Kareem Saunders**, sophomore, North Carolina A&T
OL—**Robert Louis**, sophomore, Alabama A&M
OL—**Michael Matthews**, senior, Jackson State
OL—**Marvin Irving**, junior, Miles
P—**Aaron Wall**, senior, Arkansas-Pine Bluff
PK—**Tellis Bolden**, senior, Hampton

DEFENSE
DL—**Desmond Scantling**, senior, Tennessee State
DL—**Damien Walker**, senior, Howard
DL—**Charles Alston**, junior, Bowie State
DL—**Robert Mathis**, senior, Alabama A&M
LB—**Atcheson Conway**, sophomore, Bowie State
LB—**Elgin Andrews**, senior, Jackson State
LB—**Andrekas Pooler**, junior, S.C. State
DB—**Deon Rheubottom**, sophomore, Delaware State
DB—**Chris Brown**, senior, Grambling State
DB—**Montrail Pittman**, senior, North Carolina A&T
DB—**Denmark Reed**, senior, Grambling State
KR—**Jeffrey Stanton**, senior, Tuskegee

WADE NASH

Expect Rams, VUU to renew battle.

BY SAM DAVIS
WINSTON-SALEM (NC) CHRONICLE

It took Willard Bailey a little longer than he expected to get Virginia Union back to the top of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference heap, but now that the Panthers have returned to their former position of prominence, Bailey and his team are hoping to enjoy the view for a while.

VUU captured its first CIAA football title since 1986 by defeating Winston-Salem State 31-24 in the league's championship game last season. Some people thought that Bailey might go out on top after putting the program back to where it was during Bailey's first tenure as coach in the 1980s. But that doesn't appear to be the case—at least for now. The cupboard, which was nearly bare when Bailey came back to Richmond some six years ago, is well-stocked again.

Eastern Division

If **Virginia Union** (8-3 overall, 5-1 CIAA) can overcome two key losses, it might just be back on top. Jasun Thompson, a four-year starter and last season's total offense leader in the CIAA, has exhausted his eligibility.

Ralph Hunter also closed out his career in 2001. Hunter was the team's defensive leader for four seasons and finished his career as one of the leading interceptors in school history, including a key theft in the championship game.

The good news for the Panthers is the fact that running back Larry Edwards returns after rushing for 857 yards and seven touchdowns in only eight regular-season games last season. He averaged a 6.2 yards per carry.

Coach Henry Frazier finally has **Bowie State** in contention to challenge for the CIAA championship. The Bulldogs (6-3, 4-2) beat Virginia Union 14-8 early in the 2001 season, but their youth and inexperience got the best of them down the stretch, and they dropped two key games to finish in second place in the division.

The pieces might all fall in place for Bowie this time out. The Bulldogs have a significant number of returning starters. Six-foot-6, 280-pound Charles Alston leads a powerful defensive unit.

A new era begins at **Virginia State**, which lured away alumnus Andrew Faison from Winston-Salem State. Faison was the defensive coordinator at WSSU and helped transform the Rams into one of the most consistent defenses in the conference over the past five years. Faison has his work cut out for him after being hired in mid-February at the end of the recruiting season. The Trojans, coming off a 3-6 year, were one of the most porous defensive teams in the conference last season.

The natives are growing restless at **Elizabeth City State** (2-7, 0-6), where coach John Wright is hoping to finally get the Vikings above the .500 mark. Last season Wright fielded a talented but youthful squad. This time Wright hopes that talent translates into victories. The Vikings' defense will have to get the job done early until the offense jells. Senior Johnkevia Tyson headlines the unit at linebacker. Tyson led the team with 63 total tackles last season, including 35 solos.

Western Division

Winston-Salem State, which captured CIAA titles in 1999 and 2000, is still the class of the division and will be the odds-on favorite to advance to the championship game again. Before he can start thinking about making another trip to the conference title game, coach Kermit Blount must work out some defensive problems. The first is settling on a replacement for Faison. He must also figure out how to replace Stephon Kelly, an All-America safety who led the CIAA in interceptions and was its Defensive Player of the Year.

The offensive side of the ball should be more settled. Walk-on quarterback Josh McGee was forced into action early in the season and led the Rams to six consecutive victories before being injured in the CIAA Championship Game. Running back John Holloman, who led the Rams in rushing and scoring (10 TDs), also returns. Holloman will be pushed by speedy backup Vincent Wilkins, who provides the big-play threat for the Rams.

Fayetteville State has improved during each of coach Kenny Phillips' first two years at the helm, and this could be the year this team finally ascends to the top of the conference. Optimism is running very high after the Broncos played well against the conference's top teams before losing two big late games (14-2 to Winston-Salem State, 14-7 to Virginia Union). All-purpose player Elliott London is perhaps the finest open-field runner in the CIAA. Landon hauled in 34 receptions for 571 yards and two touchdowns last season.

Coach Rudy Abrams enters his fourth season at the helm in Durham, and this could be the season that things finally come together for **North Carolina Central**. The Eagles finished 5-4, 3-3 last season, closing the year with two big CIAA wins. Abrams, who captured consecutive CIAA titles at Livingstone in 1997 and 1998, finally has the program sold on his veer-option offensive attack. The Eagles led the league in rushing with a 230-yard average.

The Eagles had three first-team All-CIAA defensive performers last year and ranked first in the total defense, limiting opponents to just 187.2 yards per game and nine touchdowns.

Where does coach Tim Harkness go from here at **Johnson C. Smith**? That's the question a lot people are asking themselves after the departure of running back Jimmy Bell, the league's Offensive Player of the Year in 2001. It doesn't help that J.C. Smith is unsettled at quarterback, where graduated Henry King led the Golden Bulls in most offensive categories last season. Harkness threw competition for the position wide-open in spring drills. Still, even with Bell and King, JCSU was the league's least efficient offense.

New coach George Johnson is hoping to bring the aggressive defensive style that helped make Tuskegee one of the top black college teams in the country the past two seasons to **Livingstone**. Johnson, Tuskegee's defensive coordinator, has much to work with on that side of the ball. The best of his new bunch is linebacker Jason Ocean, who led the CIAA in tackles both of his first two seasons with the Blue Bears. ■

Predictions

EASTERN DIVISION	WESTERN DIVISION
1. Virginia Union	1. Winston-Salem St.
2. Bowie State	2. Fayetteville State
3. Virginia State	3. N.C. Central
4. Elizabeth City State	4. Johnson C. Smith
	5. Livingstone

Top players

OFFENSE: Larry Edwards, RB, Virginia Union
DEFENSE: Charles Alston, DE/LB, Bowie State
NEWCOMER: Paris Barnes, WR, Winston-Salem State

Games to watch

North Carolina Central vs. North Carolina A&T, August 31
Tuskegee at Winston-Salem State, September 7
Virginia Union at Winston-Salem State, September 28
Fayetteville State at Winston-Salem State, October 5
Virginia Union at Bowie State, October 5
CIAA Championship Game, November 16

Take it to the 'Printers'—the Rattlers still have that bite.

BY DON CORBETT

This year's Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference football race could be characterized as having "a little something old and a little something new."

In the end, the same old teams—Florida A&M, North Carolina A&T, Bethune-Cookman and Hampton—will probably have muscled past the rest of the field atop the league's standings. While everyone connected with the conference will tell you that you cannot afford to take a week off against any of the MEAC's teams, these four schools have proven each year that they will end up in the title mix somewhere. This year should be no different.

At three schools, however, there will be some new flavor along the sidelines. At Howard, Rayford Petty returns to campus, this time as head coach, where he hopes to push the Bison into the upper division. Morgan State also made a change in the offseason, elevating offensive coordinator Donald Hill-Eley to the top spot, where he becomes the school's 11th head coach since 1973.

South Carolina State plucked Buddy Pough from Lou Holtz's staff at South Carolina to replace the legendary Willie Jeffries, who retired at the end of last season. Jeffries closed his 29-year career as S.C. State's most successful coach in school history.

For the second straight year, **Florida A&M** (7-4 overall, 7-1 MEAC) found itself looking up in the league standings after taking a serious midseason whipping from A&T. But just as he did in 2000, coach Billy Joe righted the ship and guided the Rattlers to wins in each of their remaining games as other league challengers fell by the wayside. FAMU won its fourth league title in eight years and made a sixth straight appearance in the I-AA playoffs.

This year, the road will be bumpier due to the loss of several key players, including quarterback Quinn Gray, running back Kelsie Lordeus, receiver Isaac Brown and center Terrie Logan. But at FAMU, the problem is rarely talent, and once again there is talent on both sides of the ball. Offensively, fast, experienced receivers Charles Allen and Marco Junious combined to catch nearly 70 balls last season and will be key to the success of the Rattlers' "Gulf Coast Offense." The most important performer, however, might end up being quarterback Casey Printers, a former starter at Texas Christian who transferred to FAMU in January. Printers was impressive in spring drills, and hopes to continue the success FAMU has enjoyed with transfer quarterbacks. Former quarterback E.J. Collier should get more chances at running back with Printers around.

Defensive lineman Sean Kelly had a tremendous rookie season, earning All-MEAC honors. He will be a dominating factor up front. Sequan Dowe will be among the top corners in the league.

Few would doubt that **Bethune-Cookman** (6-4, 5-3) has made strides since coach Alvin Wyatt took over the reins in Daytona Beach. With some question marks looming at Florida A&M and A&T, this could be the year the Wildcats climb the final rung of the league ladder.

Wyatt has plenty of pieces to play with, the best being all-league quarterback Allen Suber. Last season, the junior threw for more than 1,700 yards, ran for 652, had a hand in 22 touchdowns and left dozens of defenders asking which way he went along the way. He's back, but don't be shocked to see Oklahoma State transfer Andre McGill sneak on the field for some snaps. Running back Marcus Goggins and big-play receivers Erik Lash and Shaun Ford are important backfield cogs, and Napolean Joseph will be asked to stabilize the team's offensive front.

Casey Printers, *Florida A&M*

Bethune has fielded the league's top defense for several years, and returns some of the league's best performers. Start with free safety Rashean Mathis, a two-time all-conference choice who doubles as a quality return man. Secondary mate Tor-El Robinson will also challenge for postseason honors. Defensive end Steve Baggs had nine sacks and made All-MEAC last year. Ohio State transfer Jamal Muhammad may also make some noise at linebacker.

North Carolina A&T (8-3, 5-3) finished with the best overall record in the conference again last season, but could only manage a tie for third in league play. A&T was in the driver's seat heading into the homestretch, but when all-everything back Maurice Hicks limped off the field with a season-ending knee injury, A&T's championship hopes limped away with him.

This season, coach Bill Hayes has more holes to fill than he'd like, especially on offense, where the team struggled without Hicks. Quarterback Damian Phillips threw for more than 1,300 yards in his first year as a starter. There were, however, questions about his eligibility heading

Predictions

1. Florida A&M
2. Bethune-Cookman
3. North Carolina A&T
4. Hampton
5. South Carolina St.
6. Delaware State
7. Howard
8. Norfolk State
9. Morgan State

Top players

OFFENSE: Allen Suber, QB, Bethune-Cookman
DEFENSE: Tracy White, LB, Howard
NEWCOMER: Casey Printers, QB, Florida A&M

Games to watch

Florida A&M at Miami, August 31
N.C. A&T at Florida A&M, October 19
Bethune-Cookman at Hampton, November 7
Florida A&M vs. Bethune-Cookman, November 23

PHOTO COURTESY OF TCU

into the season, which could leave the door open for juco transfer Jason Douglas to see significant action. The strength of the offensive unit could be the line, where Kareem Sanders, Junius Coston and Desmond Long return.

Defensively, the Aggies bent a lot, but showed the ability to make plays and generate turnovers at opportune times. Like their O-line counterparts, Ivan Butler, Virgil Neal, Tim Blowe and Marvin Blackstock head an outstanding, deep defensive line. Montrail Pittman is back after an all-league season in the secondary, as is Jason Horton. But the team's X-factor may be Curtis Deloatch, who played corner last season and turned two interceptions into touchdowns. Deloatch also returned five punts for touchdowns to set a I-AA record and earn All-America honors. Look for Hayes to experiment with Deloatch on offense.

While most of the preseason talk centered around FAMU and A&T, coach Joe Taylor's **Hampton** bunch (7-4, 6-2) slipped off the radar screen a little bit. The Pirates showed once again, however, that selling them even a little short will cost their opponents. Hampton won three straight games to close the season, including impressive road wins at A&T and Bethune, to finish in sole possession of second place.

The Pirates boast what may be the league's most dangerous offensive weapon in receiver Zuriel Smith. The senior hauled in 58 passes last year, six of which resulted in scores. Just for good measure, he also threw in four punt returns for TDs. Smith and Terrance Patrick give Hampton an explosive duo on the flanks, while David Blount offers a nice complement at tight end. Timothy Frazier gets the QB job full-time this year after showing a lot of potential and moxie in part-time work as a sophomore. Carlton Morant and Travis Hailes will tag-team at running back.

Defensively, there are some holes to fill, but there is also considerable skill available. Isaac Hilton had a good year along the front, where he recorded 16 tackles for loss.

If the Pirates are in tight contests with conference foes, bet on them because they have Tellis Bolden, the league's most consistent kicker.

Though last season got off to a very slow start, **South Carolina State** (6-5, 5-3) put it together and won five straight to close it out. It ended a streak of three straight losing seasons, and sent Jeffries, a MEAC icon, out in the right fashion. Now, Pough takes over the reins at his alma mater. He hopes some of the toughness he showed as an all-conference tackle in his playing days rubs off on this year's crew.

Pough will welcome back two of the league's best players. Bookend linebackers Derek Harrison and Dreak Pooler made life miserable for opponents all season. Harrison, a transfer from Appalachian State, led the MEAC in tackles in his first year with the Bulldogs. Pooler, who sat out his freshman year, came out blazing and became the heart of the defense.

On offense, South Carolina State experimented in the spring with a spread attack, using more one-back sets. Running back Kambui Maxwell rambled for 880 yards and 12 touchdowns as the feature back in the State ground attack. He is the league's leading returning rusher. Brett Young and Reese McCampbell both saw time last year at quarterback.

Coach Ben Blacknall was forced to play a lot of young players in key spots for much of last year, but as the season wore on, **Delaware State** (5-6, 3-5) came around. The Hornets won three of their last four games, losing only a tight decision to A&T in the season's final contest.

With a little more consistency on both sides of the ball, Del State could slide back above the .500 mark. Redshirt senior quarterback Kittrell Barnes had some ups and downs in his first season as a full-time starter, but he did end the season with more than 1,000 yards passing. Andrew Blackston, who showed some spark in limited time last year, will push Barnes for the starting job. Whoever takes the snaps will be forced to shoulder more of the load because the Hornets lost Maurice Foster, the league's leading rusher. Sidney Stewart and Jamaal Jackson are back on the offensive line, which allowed a league-low 13 sacks in 2001.

Deon Rheubottom will be the headliner of the Hornet defense after a tremendous freshman campaign. The secondary man intercepted six passes, returning one for a score, and earned league Rookie-of-the-Year honors.

Howard (2-9, 1-7) struggled through a miserable 2001, closing the year with five straight losses and ending with its worst season in a decade. Coach Steve Wilson didn't survive the carnage, and Petty, who worked under Wilson for six years as defensive coordinator, was brought in to rebuild this proud program. Howard fans are hoping his familiarity with the school will help generate success.

One of HU's big problems last season was the quarterback slot, where the Bison changed signal-callers as often as most of us change socks. Four different players spent time taking the snaps, with senior Donald Clark probably ending up as the most consistent performer.

Two-time league Defensive Player of the Year Tracy White will lead HU's defensive charge. He recorded another season with more than 100 tackles, which is fast becoming routine for him. He has an excellent chance to play on Sundays in the future.

Heading into the 2001 homestretch, **Norfolk State** (5-6, 3-5) was sitting at 3-3 in the league and 5-3 overall. Then, the Spartans dropped their final three games of the season (getting blown out in two of them) to finish with their fifth losing record in five years of I-AA football. NSU fans, appetites whetted by the early success, were left disappointed.

This year, coach Mo Forte hopes to solidify the program's foundation. To do so, Norfolk will have to find some punch on offense, where the Spartans scored two TDs or less in eight of their 11 games. Consistency at quarterback would be a good start, where Dontrell Leonard, David Johnson and Jon Roberts combined to hit just 34 percent of their passes and throw 20 interceptions. Regardless of who calls the signals, NSU's O-line must improve. It yielded a league-high 56 sacks, contributing heavily to the quarterbacking problems.

Defensively, Norfolk has one of the league's premier defensive backs in corner Marcus Gray, who led the team in tackles last season.

Forte knows there are areas that need upgrading. The Spartans made just one field goal all last season.

Hill-Eley, in his first season at **Morgan State** (2-9, 1-7), faces the same challenges as each of Morgan's coaches for the last two decades. The Bears have tended to lack quality depth and experience, and have had to make do with a smaller budget than most of the league's other teams. But Morgan lost four games last year by a touchdown or less and shocked A&T for its only conference win.

The Bears used a short passing game with some success last year, largely behind junior QB Lejo Washington. Washington threw for more than 1,400 yards and nine scores, but Morgan lost running back Ali Culpepper, which will put a little more pressure on Washington this year. T.J. Stallings, who ran for 344 yards and caught 27 passes, moves into Culpepper's sizable shoes.

Morgan finished last in total defense last year, and was especially porous on the ground, watching opponents churn up 5.5 yards per carry and 26 TDs. ■

Tuskegee firms its grip on torch.

BY DON CORBETT

When the 2001 season came to a close, it became official—there has been a passing of the torch in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Last year's race ended in a three-way tie for the title, with Tuskegee and Fort Valley State hogging most of the headlines. After watching Albany State run roughshod over conference opposition for what seemed like decades, Tuskegee followed up its perfect 12-0 season of 2000 with an 11-1 campaign that ended with a victory in the Pioneer Bowl.

This year, the race again figures to be decided among those three schools. There will also be a new twist thrown in, as former NAIA member Benedict College joins the fray.

Tuskegee, which finished 6-1 in the SIAC, was probably the league's best team. Statistically, TU had the best offense, the best defense and a dangerous group of special-teamers. Had it not been for a midseason slip-up against Morehouse, coach Rick Comegy's crew would enter its season opener looking for win No. 25 in a row.

On paper, the row will be tougher to hoe. The Golden Tigers lost Offensive Player of the Year Bobby Wilson, who took nearly 1,800 yards rushing and 21 TDs with him, as well as quarterback Aaron James. Terrence Jones and Kevin Huff are the leading candidates to replace James. Whoever wins the quarterbacking job will have one of the SIAC's biggest weapons to work with in receiver Kylin Kimble, a second-team all-league choice who caught just 28 balls last season, but 10 of them went for touchdowns and he averaged nearly 26 yards per catch.

Coach Kent Schoolfield and Fort Valley State (8-3 overall, 6-1 SIAC) outscored opponents 106-22 in the fourth quarter last season, a testament to FVSU's mental and physical toughness.

Quarterback Cecil Lester proved to be a multidimensional weapon for the Wildcats, able to hurt opposing defenses with his legs or his arm. Lots of players look ready to contribute to the defense. Earl Kornickey and Rico Cody, both of whom made second-team all-conference last year, are slated to return to their secondary slots.

Morehouse (8-2, 6-1) followed up 2000's breakthrough season with another outstanding year. A tough loss to Fort Valley in the season opener essentially cost Morehouse the league title outright. But the Tigers suffered an even bigger loss in the offseason when coach Anthony Jones was tapped by Alabama A&M to replace Ron Cooper. In March, Willard Scissum, a former assistant, became the school's third coach in five years.

Defensively, Morehouse has two bona fide All-America candidates in linebacker John Grant and corner Ronald Smalls.

As the saying goes, what goes up must come down. After so much success on the Albany State campus for so long, it was only a matter of time before everybody else started to catch up. If Albany's second straight 4-6 season was not enough for ASU followers to swallow, there was also the NCAA probation that limited scholarships. In short, third-year coach Mike White will probably tell you the honeymoon isn't over because he never got one in the first place.

The Rams return Marcus James at quarterback, and he'll be counted on to lead the way. The defense has a budding star in sophomore lineman Walter Curry.

In most cases, when a team makes a jump from one level of competition to the next, there is a transition period that enables it to get used to the style, pace and caliber of its new opponents. But coach Tony Felder and Benedict, a former NAIA school in Columbia, South Carolina, hope to hit the ground running when they enter SIAC play this fall after going 5-5 in 2001.

Last year, Benedict counted Morehouse, Morris Brown and Miles among its five victories. One of the many interesting sidelights this season will be the play of converted sophomore linebacker Terrence Bunting. Late last year, Bunting moved over to offense and ended up with 690 yards rushing in just three games. Also, watch for former North Carolina Central quarterback Darrell Nesbitt to have an impact as a transfer.

Coach Wade Streeter's inaugural season at Miles (4-7, 3-4) was a few bounces away from being fairly memorable. The Golden Bears dropped some tough games, losing four contests by four points or less. But with a number of veterans returning on both sides of the ball, this season could find the Bears on the long end of some of those scores.

A big part of the team's fortunes will be tied up in sophomore quarterback Nickolas Smith. At 6-foot-3, 220 pounds, Smith has prototype size and threw for more than 1,000 yards as a freshman.

The administration didn't do coach Donald Smith any favors in his first year at Kentucky State (3-7, 2-5). Smith faced a brutal schedule, which contained three Division I-AA foes.

The Thorobreds scratched out just 14 points per game in 2001. Opposing defenses focused on star back Alvon Brown and dared the 'Breds to beat them with the pass. On most days, KSU couldn't. Now, with Brown and backfield mate Alastair Couch gone, QB Jonathan Harris will play an even bigger role.

Coach Miles Brandon's "to-do" list might have been fairly long when he accepted his first head-coaching post with the Lane Dragons (3-7, 1-6). But now, thanks to a solid spring session, that list is probably a little shorter. Despite the loss of 1,000-yard rusher Tobar Wilson, hopes are high with the return of quarterback Tim Lawson, who is capable of hurting defenses both on the ground and in the air.

Clark-Atlanta's 2001 highlight came October 20 when the Panthers (1-9, 1-6) stopped tradition-laden Albany State, 17-14. Coach Curtis Crockett stepped down with three games remaining, paving the way for new head man Tracy Ham. If that name sounds familiar, it should. Ham is a former I-AA All-America quarterback at Georgia Southern, and still holds more than 50 school records at GSU. Ham hopes to create fan enthusiasm by utilizing the same option offense he ran so masterfully with GSU for two national championships. ■

Predictions

1. Tuskegee
2. Fort Valley State
3. Morehouse
4. Albany State
5. Benedict
6. Miles
7. Kentucky State
8. Lane
9. Clark-Atlanta

Top players

OFFENSE: Kylin Kimble, WR, Tuskegee
DEFENSE: John Grant, LB, Morehouse
NEWCOMER: Darrell Nesbitt, QB, Benedict

Games to watch

Morehouse at Fort Valley State, August 31
Albany State at Tuskegee, October 12
Tuskegee vs. Morehouse (at Columbus, Ga.), October 19
Tuskegee at Fort Valley State, October 26

J-State's Kent will follow esteemed list of record-setting QBs.

BY LUT WILLIAMS
BLACK COLLEGE SPORTS PAGE

The Southwestern Athletic Conference took a big step toward parity last season despite the fact that West Division champion Grambling (10-1) copped its second straight title in the league's third annual championship game.

Evident from scores in league games is that the gap between the best and worst teams is narrowing, a trend that should bode well for a competitive 2002 campaign.

East Division champ Alabama State (8-4) handed Doug Williams' Grambling squad its only loss (45-38) during the 2001 regular season and had the Tigers on the ropes before falling 38-31 in the December SWAC title game.

In the East, Jackson State (7-4) and Alcorn State (6-5) were right on the heels of Alabama State, and both return quarterbacks who will likely vault them to the head of the pack in 2002. Coach L.C. Cole faces his biggest challenge yet keeping Alabama State at championship level. Alabama A&M (4-7) and Mississippi Valley State (0-11) hired new head coaches to bolster their fortunes. Anthony Jones at A&M and Willie Totten at MVSU are proven winners who will make the division even tougher.

The West again came down to Grambling and Southern (7-4), with the division decided at the Bayou Classic, where the G-Men won for the first time in nine years. Grambling lost 24 seniors and had to reload. Southern is loaded and appears capable of taking back the perch it occupied at the top of the conference for three years before Grambling's recent run.

Predictions

East Division	West Division
1. Jackson State	1. Grambling State
2. Alcorn State	2. Southern
3. Alabama State	3. Texas Southern
4. Alabama A&M	4. Prairie View A&M
5. Mississippi Valley St.	5. Arkansas-Pine Bluff

East Division

As much as the fortunes of **Jackson State** (5-2 SWAC) rest on the arm and legs of junior quarterback Robert Kent, the Tigers' real success may hinge on whether they improve on the defensive side of the ball.

If he stays healthy, Kent, who threw for 3,640 yards and 31 touchdowns last year, should break most of the JSU passing marks this season and has a shot at some of the most coveted SWAC and national passing records. With 6,150 passing yards and 58 touchdown passes in a little less than two full seasons, he is well on his way to putting his name next to Alcorn State's Steve McNair, Mississippi Valley State's Willie Totten and Alabama State's Darnell Kennedy in the record books.

But coach Robert Hughes' Tigers lost 66 percent of those passing numbers with the departure of receivers T. C. Taylor and Lawrence Story, and tight end Kendric Travis. One weapon Kent can depend on is running back Tanaka Counselor, who emerged from the second string to rush for 677 yards and eight touchdowns.

The biggest addition to the defense is new coordinator Greg Johnson, the former head coach at Prairie View. Johnson instituted new schemes in the spring to bolster a defense that finished seventh overall in the conference and gave up 31.1 points per game—not much less than the 35.4 the Tigers averaged.

Alcorn State (5-2 SWAC) had just enough offense and defense last year to get past the .500 mark for the first time since the days of Steve McNair (1994). The turnaround, after the program hit rock bottom with an 0-11 record in 2001, came in coach Johnny Thomas' fourth year and has folks on "The Reservation" buzzing.

SWAC Newcomer of the Year Donald Carrie (2,743 passing yards, 23 TDs) is the offensive catalyst, but the talented quarterback has got plenty to work with. Eight other starters return on offense, including the entire O-line, rushing leader Cletis Walker (529 yards, five TDs), fullback Alvin Jones and receiving standout Kris Peters (56 receptions for 1,002 yards and 12 TDs). The Braves should better their 24.5 points per game and 343.6 yards per contest of 2001.

Defense is where Alcorn took the biggest hit, with the loss of three linemen and All-SWAC linebackers Louis Green and Howard Clark. All-conference cornerback Tyrone Parsons anchors a solid secondary.

Getting back to the conference championship game will be quite a task for **Alabama State** (6-1 SWAC) without a quintet of first-team All-SWAC performers returning from its high-powered offense.

Quarterback Darnell Kennedy, running back Larry Bias, wide receiver Floyd "BJ" Tiger and linemen Tango McCauley and Lloyd Carlton provided most of the fuel for a high-octane offense that averaged 37 points and a league-best 474 yards per game last season. Coach L.C. Cole was particularly counting on Tiger to replace Kennedy, the conference's Offensive Player of the Year, but he was denied another year of eligibility by the NCAA.

Tiger's absence means Cole will have to turn to a trio of unproven quarterbacks to run his offense. Georgia Tech transfer Jermaine Crenshaw, who also saw some time at wide receiver, juco transfer Gary Brashears and Nick Fortson will vie for the spot.

The one all-conference performer back in the fold is tight end Chris Coleman (42 receptions, nine TDs), whose role may be expanded this year.

The defense is a little better off, with veterans manning key positions. First-team All-SWAC defensive end Earl Cochran is the only starter back on the defensive line, while the secondary returns all four starters, including strong safety Roderick Cade, who led the team in tackles, and Ravon Butler.

New coach Anthony Jones has stepped up from Division II Morehouse to take over the **Alabama A&M** program after the departure of four-year head man Ron Cooper. Jones engineered a successful turnaround at Morehouse, getting the Maroon Tigers back to the top of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in just three seasons.

Seventeen returning starters should allow him to be competitive from the start. The strength

Top players

OFFENSE: Robert Kent, QB, Jackson State
DEFENSE: Lernard Mack, LB, Texas Southern
NEWCOMER: Brandon Sweeney, LB, Arkansas-Pine Bluff

Games to watch

Alcorn State at Grambling State, September 7
Jackson State vs. Southern (at New Orleans), September 21
Jackson State at Grambling State, October 26
Alcorn State at Jackson State, November 23
Grambling St. vs. Southern (at New Orleans), November 30

of the team he inherited, just as it was for Cooper, is defense. The unit is not big but is extremely quick. That helped them lead the conference in rushing defense (80.8 yard per game) for the second year in a row.

If anyone can bring the excitement back to **Mississippi Valley State** football, it's the school's former star quarterback, Willie "Satellite" Totten, hired by MVSU following LaTraia Jones' fourth straight losing season and the school's first-ever winless campaign.

Totten set I-AA records during his career at MVSU (1982-85) that still stand today (56 TD passes and 455.7 yards per game in 1984, plus 139 career TD passes). Totten, who completed many of those scoring strikes to Jerry Rice, had served several stints as a Delta Devils assistant. He promises more no-huddle offense and an attacking defense. Now he's just got to find the players who can pull it off.

West Division

For Doug Williams, winning his first SWAC title as a head coach in 2000 left a bittersweet taste with the **Grambling** faithful because the team lost for the eighth straight time to Southern in the Bayou Classic. After winning his second straight title last year and ending the Tigers' losing streak to Southern, Williams says Grambling fans should now have nothing but "syrup and molasses" in their mouths. How long that sweet taste lasts depends on Williams' ability to fill some big holes on both sides of the ball.

A great balance of rushing and passing offense last year allowed the Tigers (10-1, 6-1 SWAC) to average 420 yards per game and lead the league in scoring (37.5 ppg). Much of that passing offense is gone with the departure of two-year starting quarterback Randy Hymes and the team's top two receivers, Levi Washington and Ellis Spears. Strong-armed sophomore Bruce Eugene was Hymes' backup and will be given the first shot at the signal-calling duties, but Williams has A'ron Thomas, Jaruzowski Lee and transfer Kevin Barby waiting to compete.

Tramon Douglas (19 receptions) and Thyron Anderson (13) are the leading returning receivers, though coaches believe Kentucky transfer Octavious Bond, senior D.J. Clay and tiny freshman Aaron Johnson have the talent to be immediate contributors.

The backfield returns All-SWAC second-teamer Brad Hill, a 5-10, 230-pounder who last season became Grambling's first 1,000-yard rusher since 1993.

On defense, all-conference tackles Antwan Lawrence and Willie Gray anchor a line that helped the Tigers finish behind only Alabama A&M in rushing defense (104.4 ypg) and allowed only 11 rushing touchdowns. Fellow starter Ron Johnson at defensive end makes this perhaps Grambling's strongest area.

In Brian Morgan, Grambling has black college football's best placekicker. He hit on 18 of 25 field goal attempts and tied the Grambling record with a 49-yarder.

After two years out of the championship circle, coach Pete Richardson's **Southern** Jaguars (5-2 SWAC) appear ready to break back in. Chief among his weapons will be a stingy defensive unit and the return to the offense of perhaps the most feared receiver in black college football.

The Jag defense held opponents to the lowest total offense (308.8 ypg) and scoring numbers (19.5 ppg) in the conference, while giving up a league-low 26 touchdowns. All-conference corner Lenny Williams and Terrence Arnold are the stalwarts of a talented and deep secondary that will probably be the best in the SWAC. Hard-hitting Jabari Greene, the team's leading tackler before missing the last six games with a knee injury, returns along with Chris Cooper to lead a linebacking corp that is without NFL signee Robert Chapman. Greg Coleman and Jonathan St. Cyr, who saw time on the inside last year, may be switched outside on the defensive line, which lost three starters, including Michael Landry, a second-team all-conference pick also signed by the NFL.

The development of quarterback Quincy Richard and the return of 6-5 wideout Michael Hayes, black college football's top receiver in 2000, will be keys for new offensive coordinator David Oliver. Richard, who has been given the full-time reins this year after spending most of his career as a backup, performed well in spring practice.

Hayes, lost for the season in Southern's first game last year with a torn ACL, was granted an extra year as a medical redshirt and hopes to approach his 2000 form when he had more than 1,300 receiving yards and a touchdown reception in all 11 games (15 total).

Texas Southern's season began on a bad note last year when reigning SWAC Defensive Player of the Year, linebacker Lernard Mack, was lost for the season with a broken wrist in the Tigers' first game. It went downhill from there. Quarterback Adam Lamb did not have his usually solid season and the running game struggled. TSU (3-7, 2-5 SWAC) scored a league-low eight rushing touchdowns while the offense produced just 22 TDs.

Mack, who led the league in 2000 with 119 tackles, is back after being granted a medical redshirt for last season, but Lamb has used up his eligibility.

Coach Bill Thomas, who had new coaches running his passing game and defense a year ago, has reshuffled the deck. Mark Orlando, Pete Richardson's longtime offensive coordinator at Southern, has been hired to bring some life to the offense, while the defense has been turned over to former University of Houston assistant Danny Palmer.

Mack's return at middle linebacker will be welcomed by Dee Goins and Billy Starling, the starters on the outside. Talented SWAC Freshman of the Year Santino Hall picked off six passes last season and is entrenched at one corner.

Second-team All-SWAC pick Cortez Hankton (61 receptions, 941 yards, nine TDs) is the foundation of a deep receiving corps.

The students, alumni and administration have to be excited with the job third-year coach Larry Dorsey is doing at **Prairie View** (3-7, 2-5).

Dorsey's troops ended a 67-game conference losing streak in his first season and followed that up last year with two conference wins, one of them the first homecoming victory for the school in 12 years. He was rewarded with a two-year contract extension on top of the four-year deal he signed in 2000.

The offense returns junior tailback Jimmie Maxey, who averaged 6.9 yards per carry last season in gaining 317 yards, but the defense will miss free safety Bobby Perry, last year's SWAC Defensive Player of the Year.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff's vaunted running attack, which led the SWAC in 2001 by averaging 246 yards per game, was shut down last year, leading to Lee Hardman's first losing season in 20 years as a head coach.

"It was tough on all of us," says Hardman, whose Golden Lions, used to being in the thick of the title race, were hit with injuries to starters and backups. UAPB finished last in the conference in total offense (221.9 ypg) and scoring (14.0 ppg) as they hit pay dirt a league-worst 20 times.

The defense, which kept the Golden Lions (4-7, 1-6) in a lot of games, especially late in the season, will again be counted on to hold the line while a young offense gets untracked. Juco transfer Brandon Sweeney should be a standout at linebacker. ■

Stillman could make splash in D-3.

BY DONALD HUNT
PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

Allen: This 500-student NAIA university in Columbia, South Carolina, plans to raise the level of its program this season, and will play its first full season since dropping football in 1968. The Stinging Yellow Jackets are coming off a 5-1 season and will face a nine-game schedule this year. Coach Robert Henby will build around explosive wide receiver Antonio Partridge, a 5-11 sophomore who has good quickness and can catch the ball in traffic.

Cheyney: A new football era has begun for the Cheyney Wolves. New head man Lee Brown arrives from Mount Senario College in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, where he was secondary coach, and 11 of the players he coached there are making the move with him.

Brown will have his work cut out for him. The Division II Wolves will have one of the youngest teams in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference. Only 17 players return from a year ago.

Leading the list of returnees is John Chestnut, a wide receiver from Wayne, New Jersey, who earned first-team All-PSAC honors last season. Chestnut was named to the all-conference team as a wide receiver and kick returner, and ranked second in the conference in all-purpose yards (1,523), fourth in receiving yards per game (75.4) and seventh in receptions per contest (4.1).

When teamed with Twayne Brown, who ranked eighth in the PSAC with 49.1 yards receiving per game, the Wolves will once again have one of the best receiving corps in the conference.

Edward Waters: Tiny Edward Waters College, coming off its first football season in 44 years, is looking to improve on a 2-8 mark, and coach Lamont Massie believes he has the players to do that at this 750-student NAIA school in Jacksonville, Florida.

On offense, the Tigers have two gifted sophomore quarterbacks returning in Al Brunson and Dexter Davis. The receiving corps is a strength and features junior wideouts Dexter Gant and Sherwin Dean, plus tight end Myqual Span, who can catch the ball in traffic.

Defensively, linemen Travis Darby, James Banner and Tyran Race offer the most experience.

Langston: Harold Johnson, Langston's first-year coach, believes his team is not far way from playing some good football in the upstart Central States Football League of NAIA. The Lions finished finished 4-7 last season, but they were 2-2 in the CSFL.

Offensively, Langston will be counting on running back Terrell Green to establish the ground attack. A year ago, Green rushed for 1,200 yards. Wide receiver B.J. Jones has game-breaking speed.

On defense, Langston has two solid pass rushers in William Beard and Carlos Lee. Rome Strozier, a hard-hitting defensive back, leads the Lions' secondary.

Lincoln (Missouri): This season will be coach Jack Bush's fourth in Jefferson City, Missouri. Lincoln's football program was resurrected in 1999 after a decade of dormancy. Bush's NAIA Blue Tigers of the CSFL have increased their win total in each of his seasons at the 3,700-student school, finishing last year at 4-5.

Bush is expecting big things from sophomore running back Cordolyous "Dodie" Wilson, who averaged 11 yards per carry while rushing for 367 yards in just four games last season. Also returning to the backfield is fellow sophomore Earnest Tucker, who led the team with 546 rushing yards on 107 carries in eight games.

Junior wide receiver Toranza Every is the best of Bush's offensive weapons. He led the team in receiving yards (455 yards on 29 catches) in 2001 and was a force on special teams, averaging 8.7 yards per punt return and 21.6 on kickoff returns. Every accounted for a team-leading 849 all-purpose yards.

On defense, junior lineman Deshon Wilkerson is expected to once again lead the swarming attack in tackles.

Paul Quinn: In his second season with the Tigers, coach Archie Cooley doesn't expect to change his philosophy. He intends to use the same run-and-shoot offense that brought him a great deal of publicity during his days at Mississippi Valley State when he coached a guy named Jerry Rice.

These days, Cooley has a terrific quarterback in Arthur Robinson, who threw 16 touchdown passes last season. Robinson, a sophomore, will have three key targets in wide receivers Richard Morris (seven TDs) and Ladestro Douglas (eight) and tight end Freddie Parks.

The running game will feature Melvin McCullar (896 rushing yards, 42 receptions, six TDs), Demetrius Thomas and Leo Hampton.

"We're going to put the ball in the air," Cooley says. "We have plenty of speed. And we're going to use our quickness. We can run and throw the football."

Defensively, Paul Quinn, an 850-student NAIA school in Dallas, has a sensational player in defensive back Emmanuel Ajiodo. A year ago, Ajiodo grabbed four interceptions.

Stillman: The Division III Tigers (6-3) will return nine offensive and eight defensive starters from last year's team. As always, the Tiger game plan will begin on the defensive end. Stillman coach Theophilius Danzy welcomes two-time All-America linebacker Brenden Givan back for his senior season. Givan has 299 tackles in his Stillman career, plus 35 sacks and four interceptions (two being returned for touchdowns).

He'll get help from fellow seniors Jermaine Blakely and Darryl Johnson, who lead a tough defensive front. At 6-foot-3, 350 pounds, Johnson is a tough blocking assignment.

On the offensive end, Stillman has a proven signal-caller in Antwan Blatch, who completed 65 of 162 passes for 1,048 yards and 15 TDs as a sophomore last season.

West Virginia State: The Division II Yellow Jackets finished last season 4-7 overall and 2-5 in the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Coach Carl Lee will look to quarterback Kerrick Cooper and running back Jonathan Bonecutter, both sophomores, to help turn things around. A year ago, Bonecutter led the team in rushing with 460 yards on 79 carries while earning second-team All-WVIAC honors. Cooper threw for 1,020 yards and eight touchdowns, tying the school record of five TD passes in a game against Concord College.

Defensively, Justin Valentine will be a major player after leading the team in tackles with 100. He also added six pass breakups, five fumble recoveries and three forced fumbles. ■

Top players

OFFENSE: Terrell Green, RB, Langston
DEFENSE: Brenden Givan, LB, Stillman
NEWCOMER: Jonathan Johnson, DB, Savannah State

Games to watch

Lincoln vs. Clark-Atlanta (at Lexington, Ky.), September 7
Paul Quinn at Langston, September 7
Stillman at Langston, October 12
Lincoln at Langston, October 26

Parity's the big winner, but Grand Valley will overcome.

BY GREGG DEWALT
DECATUR (AL) DAILY

The 2001 season was a breakthrough year for a couple of Division II's most successful programs. But for all of their regular-season success, North Dakota and Grand Valley State had never qualified for the championship game.

When they finally did make it, the Lakers and Fighting Sioux provided a thrilling end to the season, with North Dakota edging Grand Valley 17-14 for its first national title.

Grand Valley was about three minutes away from its first championship, holding a 14-10 lead. But Kelby Klosterman converted two fourth-down plays in the final drive, including a short completion that Luke Schleusner turned into a 58-yard gain, to set up Jed Perkerewicz's game-winning touchdown with 29 seconds left.

North Dakota reached the championship game by dominating in the playoffs. The Sioux outscored their three previous playoff opponents 90-30, while Grand Valley fought its way to the championship without record-setting quarterback Curt Anes, who sustained a knee injury in the first game of the playoffs.

The season also saw some new teams emerge to qualify for the postseason. Tarleton State made its first NCAA appearance, as did Central Arkansas and Winona State. Texas A&M-Kingsville returned to the playoffs for the first time in three years, while Catawba went further than it ever has, losing to Grand Valley in the semifinals.

What's in store for 2002? It likely will be more of the same. More and more teams are recruiting Division I-type players, creating more parity. No longer can a select few teams pencil themselves into the postseason.

Even though **Grand Valley State** (13-1) didn't win the national championship, the Lakers will be the team to beat, as Anes, whom many thought should have won the Harlon Hill Trophy that goes to the division's best player, returns for his senior season. Anes threw a staggering 49 touchdown passes on 201-of-288 passing in leading the country in total offense. He was intercepted only three times. Also back is David Kircus, who caught 32 scoring strikes in his team-high 77 receptions. The Lakers, who were first nationally in total offense and scoring offense, also have their top two running backs returning. Reggie Spearmon and Brent Lesniak each flirted with the 1,000-yard barrier. The defense was pretty good, too, and will have seven starters returning.

Perennial power **Pittsburg State** (11-2) appears ready to make a serious run at its first Division II title since 1991. After winning their first Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship since 1996, coach Chuck Broyles and the Gorillas are back on the national radar screen. A rushing attack that averaged 288.5 yards per game could be even better as long as quarterback Neal Philpot stays healthy. Only a sophomore, Philpot became just the third Division II quarterback to pass and throw for more than 1,000 yards in a single season. Included in those totals were 15 touchdown passes and 15 rushing TDs. He'll be running behind an offensive line that averages 290 pounds.

On defense, junior tackle Aaron McConnell may make a run at the Harlon Hill Trophy after piling up 24 tackles for loss and six sacks last season.

Cal-Davis (10-3) has been one win away from playing for a championship in four of the past six seasons, and this year shouldn't be any different. The Aggies are loaded offensively with wide receiver Michael Oliva (75 catches, 1,365 yards, 13 TDs) and running back Trae Milton (731 yards, 14 TDs in eight games), but they must replace quarterback J.T. O'Sullivan, a two-time Harlon Hill finalist.

C.J. Lofton, Valdosta State

North Dakota (14-1) will be hard-pressed to defend its national championship after losing 18 seniors, including eight offensive performers. That doesn't mean coach Dale Lennon and the Sioux won't be any good. Klosterman threw 23 touchdown passes in the regular season against only six interceptions. On defense, ends Eric Halverson and Ben Dixon combined for 10 sacks.

Like Pittsburg State, **Valdosta State** (12-1) should make a run at the national championship, but coach Chris Hatcher must replace two-time Harlon Hill winner Dusty Bonner at quarterback and four offensive linemen. The offense is stacked with wide receiver Reggie Mosley (1,063 yards, 15 TDs), tight end C.J. Lofton (57 catches, 12 TDs) and running back Aaron Jenkins (2,086 total yards, 21 TDs).

Catawba (11-2) made it all the way to the national semifinals in what was supposed to be a rebuilding year last season. The highlight was a 37-34 overtime upset of top-ranked Valdosta State. The Indians return nine offensive starters, including all of their skill-position players. Defensively,

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Games to watch

Tarleton St. at Texas A&M-Kingsville, September 28
Pittsburg St. at NW Missouri St., October 17
Grand Valley at Saginaw Valley, October 19
Tusculum at Catawba, November 2
Bentley at C.W. Post, November 9

Top 25

1. **Grand Valley State**
2. **Pittsburg State**
3. **Cal-Davis**
4. **North Dakota**
5. **Valdosta State**
6. **Catawba**
7. **Texas A&M-Kingsville**
8. **Tarleton State**
9. **Indiana of Pennsylvania**
10. **Tuskegee**
11. **Saginaw Valley State**
12. **Chadron State**
13. **Nebraska-Omaha**
14. **Bloomsburg**
15. **Winona State**
16. **Western Washington**
17. **Nebraska-Kearney**
18. **Fort Valley State**
19. **East Stroudsburg**
20. **Northwest Missouri State**
21. **Kutztown**
22. **C.W. Post**
23. **Truman State**
24. **North Dakota State**
25. **Bentley**

linebacker Todd McComb is one of the best in the country.

Texas A&M-Kingsville (9-2) rebounded from back-to-back losing seasons to qualify for the playoffs after tying Tarleton State for the Lone Star Conference title. Third-year coach Richard Cundiff will rely on an experienced team, including 29 lettermen and 29 redshirts, to continue molding the Javelinas into the power they once were. Abel Gonzalez leads the offense and is coming off a season in which he averaged 271.6 total yards per game. On defense, Nicholas Davis led in tackles (72) and had 15 tackles for loss from his defensive back position.

Tarleton State (10-3) had a breakthrough season, the best in school history since moving to Division II. With 16 starters returning, the Texans should challenge for another playoff bid. The big question that must be answered is at quarterback, where Steve Kelly (27 TD passes) is gone. But Arizona transfer Cliff Watkins and two-year backup Chase Sugarek should make it a smooth transition.

Indiana of Pennsylvania (8-2) has been in a fixture in 12 of the past 15 playoffs, and last year came within a point of derailing Grand Valley in the first round. The focus this year will turn from defense to offense, as quarterback Brian Eyerman returns for his senior season along with top receivers Carmelo Ocasio and J.R. Thomas. Finding a replacement for Aamir Dew, the second-leading rusher in school history, is crucial.

Tuskegee (11-1) has rolled to 23 wins in the past 24 games, but coach Rick Comegy must replace 13 starters, including quarterback Aaron James (42-6 as a starter) and running back Bobby Wilson (1,878 yards, 23 TDs). Also gone are All-America cornerback Roosevelt Williams and linebacker Kelvin Powell. But the Golden Tigers should again be the class of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

If Grand Valley State is the class of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, **Saginaw Valley State** isn't far behind. The Cardinals (11-2) advanced to the Northeast Regional final and return nine offensive starters, including 3,100-yard passer Matt LeFleur, who tossed 24 touchdowns and ran for seven more.

Chadron State (10-1) must rebuild an offense that lost nine starters in order to repeat as Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference champs. Helping in the process will be the return of tailback Austin Forster, who missed last season after breaking his collarbone. Forster led the RMAC in all-purpose yards in 2000.

With seven home games, **Nebraska-Omaha** (8-3) hopes to continue a recent trend of winning the North Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference in even-numbered years (1996, 1998, 2000). It will do so behind the play of an experienced offensive line and a talented defense. All-America defensive tackle candidate Buck Rasmussen returns after missing 2001 with an injury.

Bloomsburg's bid to return to the championship game was derailed by Grand Valley in the first round of the playoffs, but that shouldn't prevent the Huskies (9-2) from defending their Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference East title. Brian Bingaman anchors an offensive line that enabled Bloomsburg to possess one of the most balanced offenses in the country last season. Tierell Johnson and Rocco Forgione combined to catch 19 touchdown passes.

Winona State (10-2) set a school record for wins and earned a first-ever berth into the postseason. The Warriors' two-headed quarterback system returns intact with Bruce Carpenter and Andy Nett, who posted nearly identical numbers in combining for 2,893 yards and 30 touchdown passes. All-purpose back Kevin Curtin returns from a season in which he averaged 140.8 yards per game.

Coach Rob Smith needs a quarterback if **Western Washington** (8-3) is to win a fourth consecutive Great Northwest Athletic Conference. The Vikings return most of their skill-position players, including wide receiver Greg Dykstra (57 catches, 919 yards, 10 TDs) and the top three running backs.

Nebraska-Kearney (8-2) continues to play some of the best football in the RMAC, but in order to take the next step they must find a way to beat Chadron State (six straight losses). Coach Darrell Morris will rely on RMAC Freshman-of-the-Year running back Mike Miller (1,101 yards, eight TDs) while he tries to groom a new quarterback. Bryan Eakins returns on defense after forcing a Division II-leading seven fumbles.

With Tuskegee reloading, this could be the year **Fort Valley State** (8-3) returns to the top of the SIAC. Quarterback Cecil Lester and running back Duron Croson are among the best in the conference, while defensive backs Rico Cody, Earl Kornicky and Anthony Floyd will make it tough to throw against the Wildcats.

Denny Douds enters his 37th season at **East Stroudsburg** (7-3)—including the past 28 as head coach—looking for a PSAC East title. Jeremy Palm threw 22 touchdown passes against five interceptions, and Douds calls A.J. Oliveri

Division 2 All-America Team

OFFENSE

QB—**Curt Anes**, senior, Grand Valley State
RB—**Ian Smart**, senior, C.W. Post
RB—**Eddie Acosta**, senior, Bemidji State
WR—**David Kircus**, senior, Grand Valley State
WR—**Dee Dee Carter**, junior, Central Oklahoma
OL—**Chris Booker**, senior, Delta State
OL—**Seth Wand**, senior, NW Missouri
OL—**Micah Lomas**, senior, Northeastern State
OL—**Chad Lackowski**, junior, Saginaw Valley State
OL—**Forest Vance**, junior, UC-Davis
TE—**C.J. Lofton**, senior, Valdosta State
KR—**Donald Amaker**, junior, Tusculum
PK—**Austin Lepper**, senior, Truman State

DEFENSE

DL—**Leif Murphy**, senior, North Dakota State
DL—**Aaron McConnell**, junior, Pittsburg State
DL—**Ben Dixon**, senior, North Dakota
DL—**Andrew Tippins**, senior, Minnesota State-Mankato
LB—**Todd McComb**, senior, Catawba
LB—**Tim Polk**, junior, Harding
LB—**Mike Fowler**, senior, Valdosta State
DB—**Dontaye McCoy**, senior, Emporia State
DB—**Gregg Albano**, senior, Bentley
DB—**Charles Davis**, senior, Tarleton State
DB—**Pete Mendez**, senior, Kutztown
P—**Jason Langland**, senior, South Dakota State

Todd McComb, Catawba

"a throwback to the old-school fullbacks who just love to play and love to knock people down."

Another team looking to regain its playoff form is **Northwest Missouri State** (7-4). Three losses by a combined total of five points and an overtime loss snapped a streak of five consecutive playoff appearances by the two-time national champions (1998, 1999). In just nine games, Jamaica Rector had an excellent freshman campaign, with 61 catches for 1,081 yards and nine TDs. Freshman Zach Sherman, the second-leading high school rusher in Missouri history, could add some zip to the running game.

Kutztown (6-4) appears poised to make a run at a PSAC East title with 21 starters returning, including one of the top defensive backfields in the region. Safety Pete Mendez led the Golden Bears with nine interceptions, including two for touchdowns. Backfield mates Adam Green and Andre Davis were All-PSAC performers.

C.W. Post (11-1) coach Bryan Collins will again make sure that Ian Smart gets the ball after he led college football in rushing with 2,536 yards last year (adding 33 touchdowns). Smart, who has 4,624 career rushing yards, can become the NCAA's all-time leader with a similar season.

Coach John Ware is auditioning quarterbacks at **Truman State** (8-3), seeking a replacement for Harlon Hill Trophy finalist Eric Howe, who threw for 278 yards per game in 2001. Among the candidates are sophomore Jake Czeschin, who played sparingly as a freshman but redshirted last year, and Dusty Burk, a senior transfer from Illinois State and former Gateway Conference Freshman of the Year.

North Dakota State (7-3) looks to rebound from a third-place finish in the NCIAC, but must find replacements for All-America running back Lamar Gordon and 13 other starters. Defensive end Leif Murphy (11 sacks) and offensive tackle Chuck Klabo provide stability on both sides of the ball.

Bentley (9-3) will go as far as former high school teammates Marc Eddy and Dallas Mall will take it. Quarterback Eddy set an NCAA freshman record with 32 TD passes, while receiver Mall also set a record with 24 TD catches. Add Gregg Albano's NCAA-high 12 interceptions and Bentley should challenge in the Northeast 10 Conference.

Others to watch

Central Arkansas (9-3) built its program around transfers, and should be in the mix for a Gulf South Conference title.

Tusculum (8-2) had its winningest season ever in 2001, breaking 50 school records along the way. The Pioneers must find a quarterback, but return nine starters on both offense and defense. Tailback Aaron Claridy led the South Atlantic Conference in scoring with 14 touchdowns.

Shippensburg (8-3) won eight of its final nine games, thanks in part to cornerback Tony Johnson, who intercepted three passes, blocked three punts and returned two blocked field goals for touchdowns.

Ashland (6-5) will follow senior running back J.R. McCoy, who broke his own school rushing record last year, slithering to 1,415 yards and seven TDs.

Former Ferris State coach Keith Otterbein returns to the GLIAC as head coach at **Hillsdale** (4-7). The Chargers hope Otterbein can work the same magic he did at Ferris, where he was 60-39-3 in nine years before moving on to Ball State.

Central Oklahoma (3-8) features one of the nation's top receivers in Dee Dee Carter, who caught 76 passes for 1,469 yards last season.

St. Cloud (4-7) continues to make progress under fourth-year coach Randy Hedberg, but the Huskies will need another big year from quarterback Keith Heckendorf (2,406 yards, 26 TDs) and receiver Ben Nelson (1,018 yards, 16 TD receptions) to move up in the NCIAC standings.

Emporia State (5-6) lost two games in double overtime and another by seven points last season. Dontaye McCoy needs five interceptions to set a school record.

Millersville (3-8) started slowly under new coach Kevin Kiesel, losing its first five games, but closed with a flourish that included a 30-26 upset of playoff-bound and second-ranked Indiana of Pennsylvania in the season finale. Free safety Braden Steffy (86 tackles) is one of the top defenders in the PSAC.

Two-time champion **Northern Colorado** (7-4) returns 14 starters, including running back Tyler Hawkins, who set a school rushing record with 1,131 yards and 10 TDs. **Minnesota State-Mankato** (4-6) raided the Gulf South Conference for its new head coach. Clarence Holley, who turned around the Arkansas-Monticello program, takes over for Dan Runkle, who retired after 21 seasons. Holley's best player is defensive lineman Andrew Tippins, who recorded 11 sacks and had 24 tackles for loss a year ago.

It's hard to believe that one-time Division II kingpin **North Alabama** (4-6) hasn't had a winning season in three years and has been to the playoffs only once since 1995. The Lions will try to regain their status under new coach Mark Hudspeth, who was the offensive coordinator when Delta State won the 2000 championship.

Another Gulf South team on the rise could be **Harding** (4-6). All three of the team's MVPs—wide receiver Santiago Collins, linebacker Tim Polk, placekicker Coy Nance—were sophomores in 2001, as was quarterback Freddie Langston.

At **Southern Arkansas** (5-5), the Muleriders will open the season with the same coach for the first time in four years. Coach Steve Quinn will look to quarterback Ted Williams, who ran for 682 yards and passed for 1,128 yards in 2001, to improve on last year's record.

Slippery Rock (6-4) will try to extend the PSAC's longest streak of winning seasons to 12 with the addition of two Division I transfers. Jeff Valentino arrives from Kent State at quarterback hoping to improve a passing attack that recorded only two touchdown passes. Rutgers transfer Dan Woodard should help keep the Rock solid on defense.

Mesa State (7-4) averaged 275 yards per game on the ground, and Charles Dukes will be the featured back after averaging nearly 10 yards on 52 carries. ■

PHOTO COURTESY OF CATAWBA COLLEGE

St. John's is poised to end Mount Union's dominance.

BY MIKE GOENS
FLORENCE (AL) TIMESDAILY

St. John's (Minnesota) coach John Gagliardi says Notre Dame could have done Division III a big favor had it looked down the road to Alliance, Ohio, for its new football coach.

That's where Larry Kehres has built a dynasty at Mount Union College.

The Purple Raiders have won six of the last nine Division III championships and remain the heavy favorite to win another in 2002. They have won 82 of their last 83 games, including 28 in a row.

"I sure as heck wish someone would take coach Kehres and those guys," Gagliardi says, laughing. Not that Gagliardi doesn't have a lot to brag about himself. He's entering his 50th season at St. John's and could win his 400th game at some point late this season.

"It's not easy to win one championship, but they win one after another," Gagliardi says. "I wish I knew their secret, but I'm quite sure it has something to do with great coaching and great players."

Former Rowan coach K.C. Keeler, during a news conference when he was announced as Delaware's new head coach, listed beating Mount Union two years ago as one of the highlights of his coaching career.

"We all have the utmost respect for those guys, and when you beat those guys it's something special," Gagliardi says.

"Unfortunately, not many have done it lately. You've got to get through those guys to get to the top.

"A lot of teams have hopes of winning the national championship, but the only thing is can you overcome Mount Union?"

St. John's is among the teams with a shot at ending the Raiders' reign. The Johnnies lost to Mount Union in the 2000 Stagg Bowl championship game when the game-winning field goal sailed through with one second remaining.

Gagliardi, who has 388 career wins, needs 20 more to set college football's all-time mark. He says his biggest thrill, however, would be to get his fourth national championship this season.

His Johnnies are a good bet to make that wish come true.

St. John's has 16 starters returning, eight each on offense and defense, along with both kickers from a team that won 11 games. The Johnnies outscored opponents by an average of 26 points a game last season, and they should be better on offense and defense this year.

Junior defensive end Jeremy Hood was a big-time performer in 2001 with 112 tackles, including 27 for losses. He finished with 14.5 sacks. Linebacker Cameron McCambridge, with 137 tackles and five interceptions, gives the defense another force. Punter Charlie Carr is also a weapon.

Ryan Keating is back to lead an experienced offense. He passed for 2,506 yards and 27 touchdowns last year. His favorite receiver, Blake Elliot, caught 14 of his passes for touchdowns.

All eyes will be on the defense as **Mount Union** tries to defend its title … again. The Raiders have seven starters back from a unit that dominated when it had to a year ago.

"Defensively, we return a number of performers who have played extensively the past couple seasons," Kehres says. "Those players have been in a number of big games in the past and have responded to the challenge. We will need them to perform at a high level again this fall if we hope to be as successful as we've been in the past."

End Matt Campbell will lead that unit after making 20 tackles behind the line last year. Tackles Jeff Knoblauch and Antoine Dillard will also make it tough on opponents' running games. Four players are back in the secondary, including cornerback Chris Kern, who had five interceptions. Stan Watson will carry the load among the linebackers.

Blake Elliot, St. John's

Two of the four offensive returnees are linemen, including tackle Larry Kinnard. Quarterback Rob Adamson will be the leader, though. He passed for 3,059 yards and 25 touchdowns a year ago, his first season as a starter. Tight end Josh Liddell is the prime target, and Dan Pugh rushed for 843 yards.

Rowan has a new coach and a lot of quality players back, including eight offensive and six defensive starters. Quarterback Tony Racioppi is among the country's best. He tossed 47 touchdown passes and accounted for 3,684 passing yards and 323 rushing yards in 2001. Receivers Michael Ward and Michael Osborne have big-play potential. Four starters on the line are also back, along with tailbacks Antwine Simmons and Creg Bethea.

On defense, the Profs will count on Jermaine Ruffin and Earl Nelson up front,

Games to watch

Augustana at Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Sept. 7
Linfield at Pacific Lutheran, October 5
Lycoming at Widener, October 5
Wabash at Wittenberg, October 12
Hardin-Simmons at Mary Hardin-Baylor, Nov. 2
Wisconsin-Stevens Point at Wisconsin-Stout, Nov. 2
Mount Union at Ohio Northern, November 9
Rowan at Montclair State, November 16

PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Top 25

1. St. John's (Minnesota)
2. Mount Union
3. Rowan
4. Augustana (Illinois)
5. Widener
6. Washington & Jefferson
7. Wittenberg
8. Ohio Northern
9. Wisconsin-Stevens Point
10. Bridgewater
11. Trinity (Texas)
12. Pacific Lutheran
13. Lycoming
14. Western Connecticut
15. Montclair State
16. Western Maryland
17. Hardin-Simmons
18. Wisconsin-Stout
19. Westfield State
20. Wabash
21. King's (Pennsylvania)
22. Linfield
23. Central (Iowa)
24. Mary Hardin-Baylor
25. John Carroll

Shannon Maynard at linebacker and Vince DeVine in the secondary.

Augustana (Illinois) has returned to the elite of Division III. The Vikings posted a 10-2 record on the way to their 19th conference title last year. They return eight starters on offense and nine on defense.

A power running game will again be featured and the spotlight will be on Kyle Zick, who gained 620 yards as a backup last season. Fullback David Zemke is also a power back. The Vikings have two reliable quarterbacks in Brad Wendell and Ben Kleinhans. Tackle J.D. Sheldon and center Tony Manual are dominating linemen. The defense is led by end Tim Williams, who had 12 sacks. Placekicker Mike Clark kicked 10 field goals last year.

Widener emerged as one of the most explosive offenses in the nation last year, averaging 501 yards and 46 points a game during a 12-1 season. The Pioneers hope to build on their rich football tradition, which includes two national titles and 587 wins, the second most in NCAA history.

Quarterback Mike Warker threw for 2,751 yards and 32 touchdowns, but he did not have to carry the load alone. Michael Gandy rushed for 871 yards. The top two receivers have graduated, but Tyreak Saviour is a talented replacement. Two big-play defensive backs, B.J. Hogan and Darren Sinclair, had 13 interceptions between them and will lead the defense. Linebackers Matt Swarter and Steve Varrassee are also proven performers.

John Banaszak won three Super Bowl championships as a defensive lineman with the Pittsburgh Steelers, and he'd like to add another title as head coach at **Washington & Jefferson**. The Presidents' only loss last year was in the second round of the national playoffs. With 14 starters and both kickers back, Banaszak could have his team in contention again.

Quarterback Brian Dawson already holds 18 school records and will likely add to those this season. He completed nearly 60 percent of his passes, which produced 3,207 yards and 28 TDs. Receiver Todd Fry (94 catches for 1,631 yards) and running back Joey Nichols (1,577 yards and 19 touchdowns) add to the explosiveness. The defense was among the nation's best last year, allowing 10 points a game. Six linemen with experience and linebacker B.J. Swartzlander (115 tackles) are back.

Wittenberg has won more games (625) than any Division III program and has 14 starters, including eight on offense, back from an 11-2 team. The Tigers are favored to win their conference for the fifth consecutive time. There's not a player on the roster that has lost a conference game. Tailback Daniel Grove ran for more than 100 yards in seven games and quarterback Greg Cornett tossed 22 TD passes and only four interceptions. Strong safety John Hauser was the team's leading tackler and linebacker Dustin Goldsburg returns after missing last year. Three defensive linemen must be replaced, though.

Mount Union faces a serious threat in its conference from **Ohio Northern**. Take Mount Union out of the equation and the Polar Bears are 28-1 against Division III opponents over the last three years. They were left out of the playoffs last season despite an 8-2 record, but 10 starters on both sides of the ball return.

Jeff Soliday will run the "Northern Gun" offense after throwing for 2,211 yards and 10 TDs last year. He also scored eight times while running for 348 yards. All the receivers are back, including Jace Metzner (46 catches for 993 yards), along with all five offensive linemen. Linebackers Brad Lohr and Curt Hartman head the defense, along with lineman Brian Christopher.

Wisconsin-Stevens Point has won three of its last four conference titles but last year's league crown came after finishing last the year before. There are six starters back on offense and seven on defense, and they will be tested with an out-of-conference schedule that could be the toughest in Division III.

Defense will have to lead the way, with strong safety Dillon Maney and linebacker Nick Haffele more than capable of being the leaders. Plenty of skilled players are back on offense, but replacing four linemen will be crucial.

Bridgewater was within a field goal of knocking off Mount Union in last year's championship game. The Eagles were making only their second playoff appearance. They have seven starters back on offense and six on defense.

The keys will be finding replacements at quarterback and running back. Those duties will likely be handed over to Robbie Jenkins at quarterback and Michael Kelley at running back. Tackle Michael Day will anchor the line, which has three other starters back. On defense, key players will be linebacker Jermaine Taylor, nose tackle Jason Frizzelle and end Ryan Bailey.

Trinity (Texas) has been a solid program in recent years—the Tigers feature the fourth-best record in Division III since 1996—and should be again this year, if the quarterback position is settled. Running back Jeremy Boyce is back after rushing for 1,176 yards, and receivers Jason Hunt, Jerheme Urban and Jacob Respondek all had big

Division 3 All-America Team

OFFENSE

WR—**Todd Fry**, senior, Washington & Jefferson
WR—**Blake Elliot**, senior, St. John's
OL—**Michael Day**, senior, Bridgewater
OL—**Jeff Hollway**, senior, Ohio Wesleyan
OL—**Al Cappello**, senior, Montclair State
OL—**Larry Kinnard**, junior, Mount Union
OL—**J.D. Sheldon**, senior, Augustana
TE—**Ryan Short**, senior, Wabash
QB—**Tony Racioppi**, senior, Rowan
RB—**Mike Johnson**, senior, Bethel
RB—**Joey Nichols**, senior, Washington & Jefferson
PK—**Andy Cline**, senior, Albion
RS—**Chris McKinney**, senior, Guilford

DEFENSE

DL—**Scott Wilson**, senior, King's
DL—**Jeremy Hood**, junior, St. John's
DL—**Matt Campbell**, senior, Mount Union
DL—**Tim Williams**, senior, Augustana
LB—**Ron Swearingin**, junior, Capital
LB—**Cameron McCambridge**, senior, St. John's
LB—**Casey Urlacher**, senior, Lake Forest
DB—**Kennard Davis**, sophomore, Thiel
DB—**Eric Moe**, senior, Wisconsin-Stout
DB—**Chris Kern**, senior, Mount Union
DB—**Travis LeRoy**, senior, Ripon
P—**Scott Verhalen**, junior, East Texas Baptist

numbers last year. Linemen David Southerland and Jarrod Smith lead the defensive unit.

After losing in the national quarterfinals last year, **Pacific Lutheran** looks to return as a top contender. But there are some losses to overcome, with five starters gone on both sides. Quarterback Tyler Teeple will lead the offense after throwing for 19 scores last year. His chief target, wide receiver Kyle Brown, and running back Aaron Binger are also back. The top returnees on defense are linebacker Joey Mertlich and lineman John Bailey.

Lycoming, a fixture in the NCAA playoffs, got left at home last year despite an 8-1 season and a No. 10 national ranking. Lycoming has 27 consecutive winning seasons and, if sophomore quarterback Phil Mann develops quickly, the selection committee might not be able to look the other way this season. Five quality players are back on offense, led by offensive linemen Matt Mendola, Jay Seagreaves and Dickie Houk. The defense has seven starters back, including defensive back Jake Davis and lineman Chris Roantree.

Western Connecticut has 14 starters back and expectations are high with quarterback Mike Scipione and tailback Dwayne Reid listed among seven returning offensive starters. On defense, linebackers Matt Nartowicz and Sam Nyatome are back along with ends Nick Frayler and Damion Robinson.

If a capable leader is found at quarterback, look for big things from **Montclair State** this year. The Red Hawks have been to the playoffs three straight seasons and have 15 starters back. Offensive linemen Al Cappello and Steve Ferentinos will be counted on heavily. Receiver Eric Magrini (71 catches for 1,178 yards) is also back. Eight starters are back on defense, led by linebacker Keith Migliorino.

Western Maryland also has a question to answer at quarterback if it is to challenge again. The defense will be superb and should take the heat off the player who emerges as the starter, John Luster or Orion Canine. Linebackers Matt Wilchinski and Omar Philip give the Green Terror solid players to build around.

Hardin-Simmons plans to get a little offensive this season because it's going to take a potent attack for the Cowboys to win their fifth straight league title. They were ranked 10th in the nation on offense last year, and quarterback Dustin Proctor is back after leading the nation in passing efficiency with 2,511 yards and 31 TDs. Joe Lemberg will be his key receiver and center Thomas Anderson will be a leader up front. Six starters must be replaced on defense. The good news is that the entire secondary returns, including Melvin Dudley and Zane Jillson.

The new king in Wisconsin could be **Wisconsin-Stout**, which is coming off a 6-3 season. The Blue Devils, who are armed with eight defensive and 10 offensive starters returning, will again rely on their league-leading defense. Jamie Spielman passes some hard knocks from his linebacker slot, and defensive back Eric Moe already owns the school's interception record with 15. On offense, quarterback Nick Ohman emerged as the leader last year. He passed for nearly 1,000 yards ran for nearly 300 more.

Westfield State is enjoying a newfound surge in football and would like to improve on a 10-1 season by advancing further in the playoffs. The Owls ranked first in the country in total defense, and eight of the 11 starters from that unit are back. Linebacker Josue Zamora returns after a 113-tackle season. He also blocked four kicks. Defensive back Ryan Clifford had six interceptions. On offense, Chris Lapointe is back after throwing for 1,528 yards and 15 TDs, as is receiver Matt Yvon, who gained 932 receiving yards and scored 10 times last year.

Wabash rolled to seven consecutive wins to end last season, and 19 starters, including 10 on defense, return. That should support an offensive attack that has nine starters back on a unit that averaged 463 yards a game. Tight end Ryan Short (73 catches for 901 yards) is a weapon. Quarterback Jake Knott is back after tossing 34 TD passes. Jamie Bopp is a solid performer on the offensive line.

King's College (Pennsylvania) has all 11 starters back on defense. The bad news is the unit will have to dominate while the offense searches for new leaders. Gone are key players at quarterback, fullback, tight end and on the line. But the defense has enough talent to lead the way. End Steve Wilson had 19.5 sacks last year, while lineman Rubin Doster and safety Sean Frasier have big-play ability.

Linfield has enjoyed winning records for 47 straight seasons, and that shouldn't be in question this season as 18 starters return from a 7-2 squad. Nine players are back who were either first- or second-team all-conference selections. The Wildcat offense will turn to quarterback Tyler Matthews and the running tandem of Marty Williams and David Russell. On defense, Ray Lyons and Ricky Gaspar lead the way.

Getting to the playoffs is usually a guarantee for **Central College** (Iowa), but graduation has taken 13 starters. The Dutch have never finished below second in their conference and lead the division with 16 playoff appearances. All four offensive starters back are linemen, and Tyler Baethke could be solid at tailback. On defense, tackle Mike Merema is a key force, as are linebackers Brady Boese and Austin Bonnema.

Mary Hardin-Baylor continues to make noise in the South, and has 15 starters back from an 8-2 team. The Crusaders' defense against the run was best in the country last year and should be strong again. Trina Lusk contributed 57 tackles from the secondary and cornerback Lorenzo Morgan had four interceptions. Offensively, quarterback Cody Fredenburg can hurt you running and throwing.

John Carroll will go as far as quarterback Tom Arth can carry it. The Blue Streaks have posted 7-3 records over the last four years, but Arth could help them take it a step further. Tailback Ryan DeGeorge ran for more than 1,500 all-purpose yards last season. The top receivers, led by Jeff Lerner, are also back. On defense, linebacker Brian Brooke, cornerback Greg Dochod and end Joe Indriolo lead the way.

Best of the rest

Defense will be a trademark at **Illinois Wesleyan** as it challenges Augustana for the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin title. Defensive back Kevin Kaplan and linebacker Mike Clark will lead the unit. **Wisconsin-Eau Claire** went 8-2 last year and has nine defensive starters back, led by linebacker Brad Gawronski and end Austin Crow. The offensive line is huge. **Wilkes** is expected to rebound from a 4-6 season with 17 returning starters, including running back Brett Trichilo (1,222 yards) and linebacker Mike DaRe (12 tackles for loss). If a consistent quarterback is found, **Ohio Wesleyan** could be a challenger. The Bishops, with 14 starters returning, have a big-time lineman in center Jeff Hollway. **Bethel** is coming off a 9-2 season but must replace seven starters on defense. There is plenty of ability with fullback Mike Johnson, quarterback Scott Kirchoff and linebacker Jon Foss back.

Wheaton could be a surprise with an offense that has many options, including nine returning starters and plenty of depth. The question is whether the Thunder can fill holes around three returning linebackers. **Albion** could be the top contender from Michigan. A key weapon is placekicker Andy Cline. Nine returning defensive starters will help **Bethany** in its bid to make the playoffs. **Millikin** has rebuilding work ahead, as 12 starters must be replaced, but the Big Blue has talent on offense. Another Wisconsin team with big-time potential is **Wisconsin-Platteville**. Quarterback Tom Stetzer and receivers Greg Siebers and Matt Kent set several school records last year. ■

STREET & SMITH'S 2002

HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICA TEAM

Record-breaking QBs Chris Leak and Drew Tate lead an elite group.

by Doug Huff, *Student Sports Magazine*

Record-setting passers, runners and receivers headline the 21st annual *Street & Smith's* High School All-America Team.

Topping the 50-member preseason honor roll are quarterbacks Chris Leak of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Drew Tate of Baytown, Texas, plus running back Demetris Summers of Lexington, South Carolina, and a prolific cast of wide receivers from four states.

Tate is the only one of the 50 honorees to give a verbal college scholarship commitment during his junior school year. The Lee High School signal-caller said yes to Texas A&M.

Overall, 26 of the honorees hail from four of the leading football talent-producing states—California, Texas, Florida and Ohio—with 23 states represented on the elite listing.

While most of the selections competed for successful teams last fall, 10 of the choices helped squads capture state championships.

Here's a position-by-position capsule summary of *Street & Smith's* Top 50 selections:

QUARTERBACKS

Leak, the highest-rated signal-caller, enters his fourth season as a starter at Independence High, which will be seeking a third straight Class 4A state title. At the same time, the national Sophomore and Junior of the Year honoree by *Student Sports Magazine* could better two national career records for passing yards (14,457) and touchdown passes (170). In three years at the Patriots' helm, Leak has completed 682 of 1,154 passes for 10,452 yards and 121 TDs. Last season, his remarkable numbers included 4,541 yards and 57 scoring strikes.

In Texas, Tate is rewriting the record books with his prolific aerial attack. Last season, he earned first-team all-state honors while completing 317 of 496 passes for 3,916 yards and 44 TDs with only five interceptions. His career statistics include 664 of 1,105 passes for 8,562 yards.

California is always home to touted, highly recruited quarterbacks. The latest stars are Kyle Wright of Monte Vista High in Danville and Tommy Grady of Edison High in Huntington Beach. Last season, Wright connected on 183 of 302 passes for 3,015 yards and 26 TDs. The accurate Grady had only three interceptions while passing for 2,791 yards and 33 TDs. Another West Coast QB attracting college attention is three-sport standout Johnny DuRocher of Bethel High in Spanaway, Washington. He passed for 2,299 yards as a junior and 4,200 yards and 43 TDs the last two seasons.

Chris Leak, Charlotte (NC) *Independence*

Louisiana has produced several notable quarterbacks and the latest touted senior is Robert Lane of Neville High in Monroe. A threat both in the air and on the ground, he passed for 29 TDs and 2,542 yards last season and also rushed for 12 scores and 681 yards.

Ohio is home to Todd Boeckman, a three-sport star at tiny St. Henry High. The four-year starting QB has amassed 5,606 passing yards and 49 TDs.

RUNNING BACKS

Summers has already broken the South Carolina career record for touchdowns, and has a season remaining. A two-time all-stater, he has scored 105 TDs and rushed for 6,500 yards in his prep career. Last season, he scored 39 TDs while rushing for 2,328 yards.

The top running back on the West Coast is Reggie Bush of Helix High in La Mesa, California. A track sprinter with 21.1 speed for 200 meters, Bush led his team to a state Division II poll title while rushing for more than 2,100 yards.

College scouts know the way to two Florida towns—Pompano Beach and Melbourne. That's where Tyrone Moss of Ely High and Joe Cohen of Palm Bay High, respectively, play football. Moss has more than 4,000 rushing yards the last two seasons, including 2,223 last season while scoring 34 TDs. Cohen, a three-sport performer, is a blocking fullback who doubles as a linebacker/end on defense.

In Colorado, fans know the name Lendale White. As a sophomore at Denver South High, he led the state in rushing. Last season, he helped Chatfield High of Littleton to a 14-0 record and its first-ever state title. He has 6,223 career rushing yards.

Darrell Blackman returns to the backfield

STREET & SMITH'S TOP 50 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

QUARTERBACKS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Todd Boeckman	6-5	220	St. Henry	St. Henry, OH
Johnny DuRocher	6-4	205	Bethel	Spanaway, WA
Tommy Grady	6-6	195	Edison	Huntington Beach, CA
Robert Lane	6-3	215	Neville	Monroe, LA
Chris Leak	6-1	210	Independence	Charlotte, NC
Drew Tate	6-0	180	Lee	Baytown, TX
Kyle Wright	6-3	190	Monte Vista	Danville, CA

RUNNING BACKS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Darrell Blackman	6-1	195	Williamsport	Williamsport, PA
Reggie Bush	5-10	185	Helix	La Mesa, CA
Joe Cohen	6-2	235	Palm Bay	Melbourne, FL
Tyrone Moss	5-10	185	Ely	Pompano Beach, FL
Demetris Summers	6-1	205	Lexington	Lexington, SC
Lendale White	6-2	210	Chatfield	Littleton, CO

UTILITY PLAYERS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Michael Bush	6-3	220	Male	Louisville, KY
Robert Meachem	6-3	200	Washington	Tulsa, OK
Syvelle Newton	6-2	210	Marlboro County	Bennettsville, SC

WIDE RECEIVERS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Andre Caldwell	6-0	180	Jefferson	Tampa, FL
Chad Jackson	6-2	205	Hoover	Hoover, AL
Whitney Lewis	6-2	190	St. Bonaventure	Ventura, CA
Bret Smith	6-2	170	Warren	Warren, AR
Steve Smith	6-1	185	Taft	Woodland Hills, CA

TIGHT ENDS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Jason Goodman	6-4	245	Russell	Great Falls, MT
Louis Irizarry	6-5	230	Ursuline	Youngstown, OH

KICKER	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Kody Bliss	5-11	180	Brentwood Academy	Brentwood,TN

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Jorrie Adams	6-6	270	Jasper	Jasper, TX
Tripp Carroll	6-5	285	Myers Park	Charlotte, NC
Donovan Davis	6-7	325	Callaway	Jackson, MS
Joel Holler	6-6	330	McCaskey	Lancaster, PA
Mike Jones	6-5	285	Richards	Oak Lawn, IL
Aubrey McPhadden	6-7	310	Jackson	Jacksonville, FL
Ofa Mohetau	6-4	310	Trinity	Euless, TX
Brodie Overstreet	6-6	280	Boyle County	Danville, KY

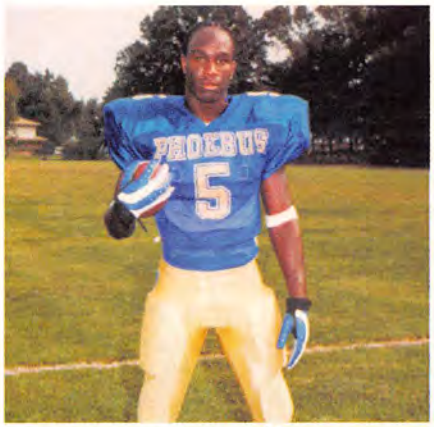
DEFENSIVE LINEMEN	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Kyle Caldwell	6-3	250	Saguaro	Scottsdale, AZ
Shawn Crable	6-6	230	Washington	Massillon, OH
Cedric Ellis	6-3	265	Chino	Chino, CA
Lawrence Jackson	6-5	260	Inglewood	Inglewood, CA
Steven Jones	6-6	280	Brentwood	Brentwood, TN
Matt Malele	6-2	280	Carson	Carson, CA
Greg Olsen	6-6	235	Wayne Hills	Wayne, NJ
Tim Washington	6-4	230	Dulles	Fort Bend, TX
Aaron Whittington	6-5	225	Hazelwood	East St. Louis, MO

LINEBACKERS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Xavier Adibi	6-4	225	Phoebus	Hampton, VA
Tavares Gooden	6-2	210	St. Thomas Aquinas	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Ernie Sims III	6-2	225	N. Fla. Christian	Tallahassee, FL
TaTa Thompson	6-4	225	Garland	Garland, TX
Lamarr Woodley	6-2	240	Saginaw	Saginaw, MI

DEFENSIVE BACKS	HT	WT	HIGH SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Dominique Brooks	6-2	190	North Mesquite	Mesquite, TX
Prescott Burgess	6-4	220	Harding	Warren, OH
Tony Cade	6-0	195	Lewisville	Lewisville, TX
Donte Whitner	5-10	175	Glenville	Cleveland, OH

Robert Lane, Monroe (LA) ***Neville***

Greg Olsen, Wayne (NJ) ***Wayne Hills***



Xavier Adibi, Hampton (VA) ***Phoebus***

Lamarr Woodley, Saginaw (MI)

at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, where he earned all-state honors as a junior while scoring 32 TDs and averaging 11.4 yards a carry in racking up 2,547 yards.

UTILITY PLAYERS

Michael Bush is one of the nation's most versatile football and basketball athletes and has earned all-state and All-America recognition in both sports at Male High in Louisville, Kentucky. Playing wide receiver, defensive back, quarterback and running back last season, he caught 64 passes for 1,090 yards and 15 TDs, rushed for 600 yards and nine TDs and completed 21 of 43 passes for 398 yards.

Robert Meachem was one of the nation's most exciting players last season at Booker T. Washington High in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He returned kicks for six touchdowns and 744 yards and scored 15 TDs by receiving or rushing as a two-way back. He also played a big role in his team going unbeaten and winning a state basketball title.

Syvelle Newton led Marlboro County of Bennettsville, South Carolina, to a 15-0 record and a state title last season by accounting for 47 TDs and more than 3,600 yards of total offense. The quarterback rushed for 1,923 yards and 24 TDs and passed for 1,700 yards and 23 scores.

WIDE RECEIVERS

In Warren, Arkansas, the talk of the town is football/basketball star Bret Smith. Last season, he led a 15-0 team to the state Class 3A title while catching 102 passes for 1,899 yards and 23 TDs.

Chad Jackson of Hoover, Alabama, helped his team into two straight Class 6A title games, winning a championship as a sophomore and finishing 14-1 last season. He caught 69 passes for 1,405 yards and 17 TDs as a junior.

Andre Caldwell is a three-sport standout at Jefferson High in Tampa. In football last season, he caught 52 passes for 1,162 yards and 16 scores.

California is home to two of the best wideouts in two-sport stars Steve Smith of Taft High in Woodland Hills and Whitney Lewis of St. Bonaventure High of Ventura. Smith, the state Junior of the Year, landed more than 90 passes for the second straight season with 93 catches for 1,520 yards and 14 scores. He also intercepted 12 passes on defense. Lewis helped his team to a 14-0 record and a 42-game win streak by catching 47 passes for 901 yards and 14 TDs. He also rushed for seven scores and returned three kicks for scores.

TIGHT ENDS

Montana and Ohio are home to two of the most touted tight ends. Jason Goodman helped C. M. Russell High of Great Falls, Montana, to a 13-0 record and state crown by landing 37 passes for 509 yards and six TDs. He was also a standout linebacker and punter. Louis Irizarry will be in his fourth year as a regular at Ursuline High in Youngstown, Ohio. Last season, he caught 31 passes for 558 yards and seven TDs. Both are also basketball standouts.

KICKER

Kody Bliss is a two-way kicking threat for Brentwood Academy in Brentwood, Tennessee. His 52-yard punting average earned him all-state honors, but he was also his team's long-distance kicking threat, booting a 61-yard field goal.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

The eight honorees are between 6-foot-4 and 6-foot-7 in height and 270 and 330 pounds. Texas is the only state with two selections among offensive linemen, with top recruits Ofa Mohetau of Trinity High in Euless and Jorrie Adams of Jasper.

Joel Holler earned all-state honors at McCaskey High in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, after the three-sport athlete recorded 48 pancake blocks and allowed no sacks as a junior. Donovan Davis of Callaway High in Jackson, Mississippi, another all-state selection, and was charted with 57 pancake blocks last season.

Brodie Overstreet is a two-way standout for Boyle County High in Danville, Kentucky, which extended its win streak to 45 games with a 15-0 record and Class 3A state title last season.

The top blockers in Florida, North Carolina and Illinois, respectively, could be Aubrey McPhadden of Jackson High in Jacksonville, Tripp Carroll of Myers Park High in Charlotte and Mike Jones of Richards High in Oak Lawn.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

The top prospects in Arizona, Missouri, New Jersey and Tennessee earned their spurs on the D-line. Kyle Caldwell received all-state recognition for Saguaro High in Scottsdale, Arizona, as a down lineman. All-star honors were accorded defensive ends Aaron Whittington of Hazelwood East High in St. Louis and Greg Olsen of Wayne Hills High in Wayne, New Jersey. Olsen was charted with 89 tackles and 12 sacks and also excelled at tight end with 22 catches for 488 yards and nine TDs. Steven Jones of Brentwood, Tennessee, is being courted by numerous colleges.

Famed Washington High of Massillon, Ohio, is where defensive end/outside linebacker Shawn Crable is attracting attention as a three-sport athlete. Last season, he was credited with 73 tackles and 31 assists plus 19 tackles for loss and six sacks. Another highly recruited defensive end is Tim Washington of Dulles High in Fort Bend, Texas.

California has three blue-chip defenders in Lawrence Jackson of Inglewood, Cedric Ellis of Chino and Matt Malele of Carson. Jackson recorded 20 sacks as a junior.

LINEBACKERS

Some talent scouts believe Ernie Sims III of North Florida Christian in Tallahassee is the nation's top overall player. A linebacker/fullback, he has played for the tiny private school since the eighth grade and helped his team to four straight state Class A crowns. Last season, he was in on 183 tackles with 10 sacks and also rushed 83 times for 700 yards and 17 TDs.

Another prime-time Sunshine State defender is outside linebacker Tavares Gooden of St. Thomas Aquinas High in Fort Lauderdale, one of the nation's top all-around prep athletic programs. Gooden had 89 tackles with 13.5 sacks as a junior, and is a state discus champion in track.

The top overall prospects in Virginia and Michigan are defenders. Xavier Adibi helped Phoebus High of Hampton, Virginia, to a 13-1 record and state title last season as a two-way standout. As a rush end/outside linebacker, he was in on 104 tackles and caused havoc with 19 sacks and seven forced fumbles. He also scored 25 TDs and rushed for 926 yards out of the backfield. Lamarr Woodley led Saginaw (Michigan) High last season with 112 tackles, 12 sacks and four fumble recoveries.

Recruiters in Texas know about TaTa Thompson of Garland. He recorded 60 tackles, including eight for losses, and three sacks as a junior.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Ohio and Texas are home to four of the top secondary players in the land.

Donte Whitner of Glenville High in Cleveland is a three-sport performer who opened eyes in summer camp workouts. As a junior, he charted 87 tackles, 19 passes broken up and three interceptions. Another Ohio stalwart is strong safety Prescott Burgess of Harding High in Warren. He was in on 88 tackles as a junior.

Texans Tony Cade of Lewisville and Dominique Brooks of North Mesquite earned all-star honors as juniors and have been standouts the last two years.

OTHER PREP SENIORS TO WATCH

QUARTERBACKS

	high school	hometown
Michael Affleck	Timpview	Orem, UT
Adam Barman	West Platte	Weston, MO
James Battle	Ryan	Denton, TX
Brad Bower	Central	Hinsdale, IL
Alex Brink	Sheldon	Eugene, OR
Pat Carter	Lakewood	St. Petersburg, FL
Philip Daugherty	Bridgeport	Bridgeport, TX
Dennis Dixon	San Leandro	San Leandro, CA
Ty Donovan	Arrowhead	Hartland, WI
Matt Engle	El Segundo	El Segundo, CA
Rob Felicetta	Bellport	Brookhaven, NY
John Ferguson	Reynoldsburg	Reynoldsburg, OH
Matt Flynn	Lee	Tyler, TX
Brian Foreman	Skyline	Issaquah, WA
Jon Fulton	George Washington	Danville, GA
Casey Gillen	Indian Creek	Trafalgar, IN
Don Gronkowski	North	Williamsville, NY
Ryan Gunderson	Central Catholic	Portland, OR
Bruce Hall	Milton	Milton, FL
Martin Hankins	Hattiesburg	Hattiesburg, MS
Patrick Jackson	1st Presbyterian	Macon, GA
Frank Jankowski	Berwick	Berwick, PA
Sam Kellar	San Ramon Valley	Danville, CA
Benji Kennedy	Morris	Morris, IL
Landon Leach	Russellville	Russellville, AR
Brad Leaf	Russell	Great Falls, MT
Chris Lee	Lincoln	Ypsilanti, MI
J. C. Lewis	Las Lomas	Walnut Creek, CA
Mike Loree	Delbarton	Delbarton, NJ
Ben Mauk	Kenton	Kenton, OH
Kevin McCabe	Pine-Richland	Gibsonia, PA
Ricky Joe Meeks	Mt. Vernon	Mt. Vernon, TX
Justin Midgett	Charlotte	Punta Gorda, FL
Blake Mitchell	LaGrange	LaGrange, GA
Steven Moffett	Winter Park	Winter Park, FL
Brian Nooy	Pendleton	Pendleton, OR
Lance Parker	Bryant	Bryant, AR
John Phillips	University	Memphis, TN
Brady Quinn	Coffman	Dublin, OH
Clayton Richard	McCutcheon	McCutcheon, IN
Brad Roach	Williamston	Williamston, NC
Jamarcus Russell	Williamson	Mobile, AL
Ricky Santos	Bellingham	Bellingham, MA
Dave Shinskie	Mount Carmel	Mount Carmel, PA
Paul Smith	Owasso	Owasso, OK
Marcus Stone	Bishop McDevitt	Harrisburg, PA
Dustin Wade	Parkview	Lilburn, GA
DeJuan Warren	Southfield	Southfield, MI
Drew Williamson	Cummings	Burlington, NC
Andre Woodson	North Hardin	Radcliff, KY
Tom Zbikowski	Buffalo Grove	Buffalo Grove, IL

RUNNING BACKS

Alan Abrams	Apopka	Apopka, FL
Andrew Alexander	Lawton	Lawton, OK
Micah Andrews	G. Atlanta Christian	Norcross, GA
Akeem Anthony	Lakes	Tacoma, WA
Henry Atkinson	Glen Mills	Concordville, PA
Lance Ball	Teaneck	Teaneck, NJ
Todd Basler	Elma	Elma, WA
Jean Bradshaw	Rutherford	Panama City, FL
Alley Broussard	Acadiana	Lafayette, LA
Brandon Brown	Galax	Galax, VA
Jed Bines	Parkland	Winston-Salem, NC
Darius Cade	Chandler	Chandler, AZ
Andre Callender	Seton Orange Prep	West Orange, NJ
Anton Campbell	Ft. Zumwalt West	O'Fallon, MO
Jehuu Caulcrick	Clymer	Clymer, NY
Vince Chukwukelo	Coppell	Coppell, TX
Brian Dennison	Mandarin	Jacksonville, FL
Jamie Dowler	Washington	Washington, MO
Maurice Drew	De La Salle	Concord, CA
Barrington Edwards	Bowie	Bowie, MD
Carl Garritano	Webster	Wenster. NY
Calvin Hall	Aquinas	Rochester, NY
Jerome Jackson	Saginaw	Saginaw, MI
A. J. Johnson	Bolingbrook	Bolingbrook, IL
Cornell Johnson	Desert Pines	Las Vegas, NV
Shawn Jordan	Riverside	El Paso, TX
Tasmin Knocknem	Catholic	Baton Rouge, LA
Cortez Lacy	George Washington	Charleston, WV
Kenny Lewis	George Washington	Danville, VA
Brandon Love	Hillside	Durham, NC
Kregg Lumpkin	Stephenson	Stone Mountain, GA
Marcus Mason	Georgetown Prep	Rockville, MD
Brandon Murphy	Strongsville	Strongsville, OH
Matt Murray	Horace Greeley	Chappaqua, NY
Greg Owens	Mt. Carmel	Chicago, IL
Eric Packer	Wilcox Central	Camden, AL
Andre Reese	Taylor	Pierson, FL
Rafael Rice	Mater Dei	Santa Ana, CA
Joe Sandberg	Bergen Catholic	Oradell, NJ
Austin Scott	Parkland	Orefield, PA
Kolby Smith	Rickards	Tallahassee, FL
Nathaniel Smith	Georgetown	Georgetown, SC
Freddie Stoglin	Brownwood	Brownwood, TX
Marcus Thomas	Tolleson	Tolleson, AZ
Pierre Thomas	Thornton Fractional S.	S. Lansing, IL
Skyler Thornton	LaGrange	LaGrange, GA
Andrew Tuggle	Blue Springs	Blue Springs, MO
Darius Walker	Buford	Buford, GA
Tony Wallace	Myrtle Beach	Myrtle Beach, SC
Chauncey Washington	South	Torrance, CA
Ashton White	Santa Margarita	Rancho S. Mar., CA
Ron Williams	American Heritage	Delray Beach, FL
Alex Woodley	Mesquite	Mesquite, TX
Marcus Woods	Harrison	Farmington Hills, MI
Albert Young	Moorestown	Moorestown, NJ

UTILITY PLAYERS

Khalid Abdur-Rahim	Poly	Long Beach, CA
Maurice Alexander	Southfield	Southfield, MI
Adam Bednarik	Bethlehem Catholic	Bethlehem, PA
Elijah Blower	Highland	Medina, OH
Ronnie Borquin	South	Canton, OH
Raymond Brooks	Williamsport	Williamsport, PA
Phillip Brown	Phoebus	Hampton, VA
Dorian Bryant	Kingsway	Swedesboro, NJ
Jordan Carey	Capital	Olympia, WA
Tim Castille	Briarwood Christian	Birmingham, AL
Desmond Chambers	Highland Home	Highland Home, AL
Albert Chester	Episcopal	Jacksonville, FL
Antonio Cromartie	Lincoln	Tallahassee, FL
Quintin Daniels	Loyola	Los Angeles, CA
Vernon Davis	Dunbar	Washington, DC
Jake Dugger	Millard West	Omaha, NE
Jo-Lonn Dunbar	Corcoran	Syracuse, NY
Zach Edwards	Jenks	Jenks, OK
Chris Felder	Thomasville	Thomasville, AL
Taros Harris	Calvert	Owings, MD
Chris Hawkins	Southern Vance	Henderson, NC
Taron Henry	Riverdale	Murfreesboro, TN
Jordan Hickel	Claflin	Claflin, KS
Darius Hiley	Glenville	Cleveland, OH
Anthony Johnson	Ozen	Beaumont, TX
Marcus Johnson	Abilene	Abilene, TX
Shane Lopes	Dos Pueblos	Goleta, CA
Kelcy Luke	Central	Phenix City, AL
Corey McKeon	Naperville North	Naperville, IL
Milan Moses	East Waterloo	Waterloo, IA
Brad Mueller	Mars	Mars, PA
Tyson Mullen	Wichita County	Leoti, KS
Reggie Nelson	Palm Bay	Melbourne, FL
Hunter Pingston	Rockledge	Rockledge, FL
Desmond Reed	Temple City	Temple City, CA
Vaughn Rivers	Perry	Pittsburgh, PA
Geramy Rodamer	Morgantown	Morgantown, WV
Isaac Redman	Paulsboro	Paulsboro, NJ
LaRue Rumph	Central Catholic	Clearwater, FL
Chris Russell	Hillsboro	Hillsboro, TN
Bo Ruud	Southeast	Lincoln, NE
Cole Seifrig	Heritage Hills	Lincoln City, IN
Devin Stearns	Serra	Gardena, CA
Jimmy Sutton	Boca Raton	Boca Raton, DL
Darnell Terrell	Eureka	Eureka, MO
Antonio Tribble	Thornton	Harvey, IL
Brooks Turner	Deerfield Beach	Deerfield Beach, FL
Jonathan Ward	Collinwood	Collinwood, TN
Marcus Wells	Harding	St. Paul, MN
Ambrose Woodin	Gilman	Baltimore, MD
Dane Zaslaw	Memorial	Edmond, OK

WIDE RECEIVERS

Brett Adamson	Warrenville	South Warrenville, IL
Sean Bailey	Milton	Alpharetta, GA
Ray Bass	Centennial	Corona, CA
Adarius Bowman	Notre Dame	Chattanooga, TN
Greg Bracey	Vincent	Milwaukee, WI
Mark Bradford	Fremont	Los Angeles, CA
Armand Cauthen	Douglas County	Douglasville, GA
Craig Chambers	Jackson	Mill Creek, WA
Sam Cheatham	San Leandro	San Leandro, CA
Jesse Clark	Mt. Spokane	Spokane, WA
Tyler Fanucchi	Claremont	Claremont, CA
Tyler Gatewood	Chapel Hill	Tyler, TX
Tony Gonzalez	St. Ignatius	Cleveland, OH
Kentrell Gransberry	Woodlawn	Baton Rouge, LA
Vern Hamilton	Benedictine	Richmond, VA
Derrick Harper	Montclair	Montclair, NJ
Anthony Hill	First Coast	Jacksonville, FL
Jesse Holley	Abraham Clark	Roselle, NJ
Lonnie Hurst	Jesuit	Detroit, MI
Aaron Ivey	Putnam City North	Oklahoma City, OK
Antwuan Jackson	Tri-Cities	East Point, GA
Ruben Jackson	Edison	Stockton, CA
Jordan Jackson	Bunkie	Bunkie, LA
Devin Jordan	Washington	Massillon, OH
Josh Jordan	Chandler	Chandler, AZ
Dustin Keller	Jefferson	Lafayette, IN

	high school	hometown
John Logan	Lexington Catholic	Lexington, KY
Terry Love	Proviso East	Maywood, IL
Bryan Manning	Cummings	Burlington, NC
Cedric Mason	Riverdale	Riverdale, GA
Mike Mason	Rocky Mount	Rocky Mount, NC
Hiram Moore	Huntington	Huntington, WV
Dan Pasarelli	Central	Naperville, IL
Jose Perez	Oceanside	Oceanside, CA
Stephon Robinson	Mullen	Denver, CO
Tristen Ross	Evangel Christian	Shreveport, LA
Jeff Samardzija	Valparaiso	Valparaiso, IN
David Smith	Union	Union, SC
Jayson Swain	Grissom	Huntsville, AL
Luke Swan	Fennimore	Fennimore, WI
Earvin Taylor	Mission	Mission, TX
Brandon Tobias	Thornton	Harvey, IL
James Townsend	Holy Cross	Delran, NJ
Eric Walz	Fossil Ridge	Keller, TX
Andrew Weatherly	Sussex Central	Georgetown, DE

TIGHT ENDS

Keith Alleger	Leesville	Leesville, LA
Chris Barrett	Tustin	Tustin, CA
Garrett Bushong	Ionia	Ionia, MI
John Carlson	Litchfield	Litchfield, MN
Richard Cook	Washington-Wilkes	Washington, GA
D. J. Cunningham	Hanover Park	East Hanover, NJ
Brandon Davis	Riverside-Brookfield	Riverside, IL
Brian Faires	Ben Davis	Indianapolis, IN
Marcel Frost	Brush	Lyndhurst, OH
Ken Griffith	Brandon	Brandon, MS
John Hamlett	Jefferson Forest	Forest, VA
Tony Hills	Elsik	Alief, TX
Jared Hosteller	Lawrence County	Louisa, KY
Nate Howard	Spring Valley	Huntington, WV
Chris Malamet	Frederick	Frederick, MD
Josh Mueller	Lakeview	Columbus, NE
Sam Johnson	Bergen Catholic	Oradell, NJ
Nick Stefanow	Wheeling Park	Wheeling, WV
Joey Thomas	Westlake	Austin, TX
Brian Ushler	North Penn	Lansdale, PA

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Chris Adams	Atwater-Cosmos-GC	Grove City, MN
Will Arnold	Centreville Academy	Centreville, MS
Andrew Bain	Ely	Pompano Beach, FL
Zach Beebe	Mount Lebanon	Pittsburgh, PA
Matt Biondi	Darnell	Genesso, IL
Virgil Black	Lexington	Lexington, NC
James Blair	Pershing	Detroit, MI
Dan Boyd	Rockhurst	Kansas City, MO
Aaron Brant	Wahlert	Dubuque, IA
Jay Brown	Hermitage	Richmond, VA
Mike Clevenger	Warren Central	Indianapolis, IN
Brandon Cook	Garner-Hayfield	Garner, IA
James Cook	Harris County	Hamilton, GA
Brian Daniels	Mullen	Denver, CO
Mike DeLuca	Notre Dame	Chardon, OH
Jeff Dicks	Bellevue	Bellevue, WA
Steve Douglas	Joliet Catholic	Joliet, IL
Ryan Ewing	Millard West	Omaha, NE
Pat Frett	Huron	Ann Arbor, MI
Robbie Garibay	Foothill	Palo Cedro, CA
Dan Gore	Prosser	Prosser, WA
Dallas Griffin	Taylor	Katy, TX
C. J. Gruber	Bishop McDevitt	Harrisburg, PA
Robert Gustavis	North	Torrance, CA
Ty Hall	Anderson	Cincinnati, OH
Ryan Harris	Cretin-Derham Hall	St. Paul, MN
Kalani Hoppe	Liberty	Bedford, VA
P.J. Irvin	Agoura	Agoura Hills, CA
Stewart Johnson	Dacula	Dacula, GA
Steven Justice	New Smyrna Beach	New S. Beach, FL
Ryan Kalil	Servite	Anaheim, CA
Danny Kaye	Eisenhower	New Berlin, WI
Flordell Kissee	Gar-Field	Dale City, VA
Clint Latray	Allen	Allen, TX
Scott Lenahan	Harrison	Kennesaw, GA
Jordy Lipsey	Lake Brantley	Altamonte Springs, FL
Mike Maizel	Ursuline	Youngstown, OH
Joe Marafine	Cambridge Springs	Cam. Springs, PA
Devon May	Watterson	Columbus, OH
Jarred Meade	Cedar Crest	Lebanon, PA
Zeb McKinzey	Parkview	Lilburn, GA
Akim Millington	Wheaton North	Wheaton, IL
Justin Moon	Guntersville	Guntersville, AL
Dustin Moore	Brenham	Brenham, TX
Derek Morse	Estero	Estero, FL
Richy Mulcahy	Jackson	Mill Creek, WA
Kevin Myers	Manual Arts	Los Angeles, CA
Drew Nystrom	Prairie Ridge	Crystal Lake, IL
Martin O'Donnell	South	Downers Grove, IL
Yomi Ojo	Southeast Raleigh	Raleigh, NC
Will Oliver	Lindale	Lindale, TX
David Overmyer	Parkview	Lilburn, GA
Ryan Poles	Canandaigua	Canandaigua, NY
Mike Pollock	Corona del Sol	Tempe, AZ
Dan Pribula	Strongsville	Strongsville, OH
David Price	Mandarin	Jacksonville, FL
Drew Radovich	Mission Viejo	Mission Viejo, CA
Matt Reese	Centennial	Bakersfield, CA
Dallas Reynolds	Timpview	Provo, UT
Steve Rissler	Riverview	Sarasota, FL
Gordie Sammis	Immaculata	Somerville, NJ
Roy Scheuning	Pendleton	Pendleton, OR
Ryan Schueler	Washington	Sioux Falls, SD
Aaron Sears	Russellville	Russellville, AR
Raymond Serres	Humble	Humble, TX
Jerry Sevin	John Curtis	River Ridge, LA
Sean Shannon	Altoona	Altoona, PA
Jason Speredon	Granger	Salt Lake City, UT
John Sullivan	Greenwich	Greenwich, CT
Noah Sutherland	Kellam	Virginia Beach, VA
Brett Thielke	Skyline	Issaquah, WA
Joe Thomas	Central	Brookfield, WI
John Tjaden	Mason City	Mason City, IA
Bobby Todd	Whitehaven	Memphis, TN
Josh Tschirgi	Skyview	Vancouver, WA
William Vab Weren	South Rowan	China Grove, NC
Seth Washburn	Cumberland Valley	Mechanicsburg, PA
Derrick Washington	Carter	Dallas, TX
Brian Wiech	North Tonawanda	N. Tonawanda, NY
Matt Welsh	Centreville	Clifton, VA
Donnie Woods	Jefferson	Tampa, FL
Monte Wyrick	Texarkana	Texarkana, AR
Ian Yates-Cunningham	Hebron	Hebron, TX
Andy Young	Greenville	Greenville, PA

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Victor Abiamiri	Gilman	Baltimore, MD
Mark Abraham	Deerfield Beach	Deerfield Beach, FL
Conrad Bolston	St. John's	Washington, DC
Blake Bonner	Lowndes County	Valdosta, GA
Kevin Brown	Poly	Long Beach, CA
Shelton Bynum	Cedar Grove	Ellenwood, GA
Kenyon Buford	Riverdale	Murfreesboro, TN
John Cary	Palestine	Palestine, TX
Pete Cavender	Elko	Elko, NV
Marcus Coleman	Wayzata	Wayzata, MN
Sian Cotton	St. V.-St. Mary's	Akron, OH
Lawrence Dampeer	MacArthur	Decatur, IL
Bruce Davis	Clear Creek	League City, TX
Brett Denney	Legacy	Broomfield, CO
Jermaine Dias	Hackensack	Hackensack, NJ
Clifton Dickson	Northwestern	Miami, FL
Johnny Dingle	Washington	Miami, FL
Tex Doolittle	Opelika	Opelika, AL
Marcus Draper	Bangs	Bangs, TX
Keilen Dykes	Chaney	Toungstown, OH
Christoper Ellis	Bethel	Hampton, VA
Felipe Foster	Clarke Central	Athens, GA
Dezmond Gray	Cass Tech	Detroit, MI
Chad Green	Northern Nash	Rocky Mount, NC
Quintin Groves	Greenville	Greenville, MS
Marcus Hands	Laney	Wilmington, NC
John Harrell	Stephenville	Stephenville, TX
Chris Harrington	St. Pius X	Houston, TX
Marcus Harrison	Mills	Little Rock, AR
Michael Hearn	Glenville	Cleveland, OH
Dave Howell	Royal	Palm Beach, FL
Terry Hunter	East Wake	Wendell, NC
Chris Hurysz	Kenmore East	Tonawanda, NY
Jason Jack	Humble	Humble, TX
Keith Jackson Jr.	McClelland	Little Rock, AR
Jamar Kelly	Chester	Chester, SC
Mario Lane	Carver	Montgomery, AL
Nick Larkin	St. Xavier	Cincinnati, OH
Tolifili Liufau	St. Louis	Honolulu, HI
Mike Macellari	Clay	South Bend, IN
Brandon Mauplin	Lakota West	West Chester, OH
Stanley McClover	Dillard	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Brandon Mebane	Crenshaw	Los Angeles, CA
Sean Merrill	D'Iberville	D'Iberville, MS
Matt Miller	Atlee	Mechanicsville, VA
Fili Moala	Western	Anaheim, CA
Charles Myles	Harper	Chicago, IL
Justin Ostrowski	Portage	Portage, WI
Brett Palmer	Marcos de Niza	Tempe, AZ
David Patterson	Warrensville Hts.	Warrensville Hts., OH
Tate Pittman	Permian	Odessa, TX
Eddie Prinigis	Jefferson Forest	Forest, VA
Lionel Ritchens	Bloomfield	Bloomfield, CT
Shawn Shoemake	Van Buren	Van Buren, AR
Blake Smith	Union	Tulsa, OK
Reggie Smith	Shaw	E. Cleveland, OH
Tim Smith	Ypsilanti	Ypsilanti, MI
Brian Soi	Timpview	Orem, UT
Sam Sotelo	Sunnyside	Tucson, AZ
Matt Spanos	Corona	Corona, CA
Dwight Stephenson Jr.	Pope John Paul II	Boca Raton, FL
Eric Thomas	Columbia	Lake City, FL
Josh Thompson	Statesboro	Statesboro, GA
Quinton Turner	East	Memphis, TN
Adam Venegas	Olathe North	Olathe, KS
Rashaud Walker	Malvern	Malvern, AR
Kevin Williams	Sebastian River	Sebastian River, FL
Mario Williams	Richlands	Richlands, NC

LINEBACKERS

Matt Albanese	Farmingdale	Farmingdale, NY
Easton Ayers	McClintock	Tempe, AZ

	high school	hometown
John Beason	Chaminade-Madonna	Hollywood, FL
Jerome Bennett	Southfield	Southfield, MI
H. B. Blades	Plantation	Plantation, FL
Tahj Bomar	Kentwood	Covington, WA
Barry Booker	Amherst County	Amherst, VA
Lance Broadus	Taft	Woodland Hills, CA
Joe Brockington	Palmyra	Palmyra, PA
Avery Cleveland	LBJ	Austin, TX
Gene Coleman	Lake Wales	Lake Wales, FL
Jermaine Davis	Hackensack	Hackensack, NJ
Will Denniston	UMS Wright	Mobile, AL
Raymond Edwards	Woodward	Cincinnati, OH
Eddy Emmanuel	Hempstead	Hempstead, NY
Kory Gedin	Gonzaga	Washington, DC
Vince Hall	Western Branch	Chesapeake, VA
Ryan Henegan	Nolan	Fort Worth, TX
Arlington Highsmith	Central	Miami, FL
Marc Hull	Narbonne	Harbor City, CA
Brandon Jackson	Washington-Marion	Lake Charles, LA
Michael Jamar	Butler	Huntsville, AL
Wesley Jefferson	Gwynn Park	Brandywine, MD
Ernest Jones	Southern Vance	Henderson, NC
Joe Kedra	Camden Catholic	Camden, NJ
Robert Killebrew	Klein	Klein, TX
Mike Klinkenbort	Lyon Central	Rock Rapids, IA
Bill Lamb	North Hills	Pittsburgh, PA
Jermaine Lemons	Jefferson	Tampa, FL
Ryan Lincoln	Joliet Catholic	Joliet, IL
Gary Lovely	Gunderson	San Jose, CA
Claude McBride	Woodrow Wilson	Camden, NJ
Eric Moncur	Carol City	Miami, FL
Derek Moore	Southside	Fort Smith, AR
Adam Muzika	Uniontown	Uniontown, PA
Chris Niszczak	Washington Town.	Sewell, NJ
Michael Okwo	Mira Costa	Manhattan Beach, CA
Antoine Owens	Ezell-Harding	Antioch, TN
Danny Prentice	Oakton	Oakton, VA
Mike Proulx	Sheldon	Eugene, OR
Chaz Rochards	Henderson	Troy, AL
Bruce Ringwood	Blue Springs	Blue Springs, MO
Drean Rucker	Canyon Springs	Moreno Valley, CA
Cedric Scott	Capital	Charleston, WV
Andy Sturzenbecker	Jamestown	Jamestown, NY
Mitchell Thomas	Smith Station	Smiths, AL
Garrett Tremblay	Palm Desert	Palm Desert, CA
Jason Turner	St. Francis	La Canada, CA
Demarucs Waldrop	Pinson Valley	Pinson, AL
Brett Warren	Centreville	Clifton, VA
Desmond Williams	Dacula	Dacula, GA
Ammon Wolfley	Peoria	Peoria, AZ
Dane Zaslaw	Edmond Memorial	Edmond, OK

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Eric Anderson	Camelback	Phoenix, AZ
Carlton Bailey	Jonesboro	Jonesboro, GA
Quinton Bellamy	Bourgade	Phoenix, AZ
Tarell Brown	North Mesquite	Mesquite, TX
Marcus Clayton	Godby	Tallahassee, FL
Willie Cooper	St. Augustine	St. Agustine, FL
Quinton Culbertson	Provine	Jackson, MS
Eric Gray	West Morgan	Trinity, AL
Michael Griffin	Bowie	Bowie, TX
Leon Hall	Vista	Vista, CA
Jacob Hartley	Lee	Midland, TX
Damon Jenkins	De La Salle	Concord, CA
Lance Johnson	Murray-Wright	Detroit, MI
Brian Jones	Avon Lake	Avon Lake, OH
Dennis Keyes	Birmingham	Van Nuys, CA
LaRon Landry	Hahnville	Boutte, LA
John Lario	Covington Catholic	Park Hills, KY
David Lewis	Bethel	Spanaway, WA
Eric Mayes	Humble	Humble, TX
Trumaine McBride	Clarksdale	Clarksdale, MS
Ryan Mundy	Woodland Hills	Pittsburgh, PA
Maurice Nelson	Crestwood	Sumpter, SC
Paul Oliver	Harrison	Kennesaw, GA
Steve Oliver	Homewood-Flossmoor	Homewood, IL
Quinton Person	North Pitt	Bethel, NC
Mike Phillips	Harding	Warren, OH
A. J. Porter	Kennedy	Burien, WA
Desmond Reed	Temple City	Temple City, CA
Mike Ross	Chamberlain	Tampa, FL
Kenny Scott	Seabreeze	Daytona Beach, FL
Jordan Senn	Beaverton	Beaverton, OR
Clifton Smith	Edison	Fresno, CA
Charles Timbers	Ocean Township	Oakhurst, NJ
Eric Thatcher	Moeller	Cincinnati, OH
DeJuan Tribble	North College Hill	Cincinnati, OH
Demetrius Webb	White	Jacksonville, FL
Jeremiah Wright	Edgewater	Orlando, FL
Ashton Youboty	Klein	Klein, TX

KICKERS

Sergio Aguayo	San Jacinto	San Jacinto, CA
Michael Braunstein	Gilbert	Gilbert, AZ
Chris Davis	Rio Mesa	Oxnard, CA
Mike DeSantis	Immaculata	Somerville, NJ
John Hedge	Pulaski County	Dublin, VA
Brock Johnston	Burleson	Burleson, TX
Jarod Little	Benton	Benton, AR
Brian Monroe	Gardens	Palm Beach, FL
Zach Myatt	A&M Consolidated	College Station, TX
Jay Ottovagio	St. Thomas Aquinas	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Geoffrey Price	Heritage	Colleyville, TX
Clint Stitser	McQueen	Reno, NV
Matt Votaw	Brea-Olinda	Brea, CA
Scott Webb	Union	Tulsa, OK

50 JUNIORS TO WATCH

Alabama
Justin Britt, LB, Cullman
Brandon Montgomery, OL, Hillcrest Evergreen

Arizona
Zach Davis, TE/LB, Tempe Desert Vista

Arkansas
Freddie Barnett, DL, Texarkana

California
Michael Bumpus, WR, Culver City
Eugene Germany, LB, Pomona
Terrell Jackson, RB, Corona Centennial
Robert Jordan, WR, Tulare
Dion Morton, Ath., Riverside J.W. North
Matt Parent, LB, Santa Fe Springs St. Paul

Colorado
Garrett Bliss, LB, Durango

Florida
Landell Bembo, WR, Tallahassee Godby
Xavier Carter, WR/DB, Melbourne Palm Bay
Lamar Hughes, WR, Tallahassee No. Fla. Christian
Xavier Lee, QB, Daytona Beach Seabreeze
Raymond Neal, RB, Tampa Plant
Bobby Washington, RB, Miami Killian

Georgia
Corey James, FB, Valdosta

Illinois
Marcus Randle El, Ath., Harvey Thornton

Indiana
Mark Bonds, RB, Indianapolis Warren Central

Kentucky
Brian Broehm, QB, Louisville Trinity

Louisiana
John David Booty, QB, Shreveport Evangel
Chris Bowers, DL, Shreveport Evangel
Luke Sanders, LB, West Monroe

Missouri
Tony Temple, RB, Kansas City Rockhurst

Mississippi
Terrell Jackson, DB, Puckett

New Jersey
Brian Toal, LB/DE, Ramsey Don Bosco

New Mexico
Alan Branch, TE/DE, Albuquerque Cibola

New York
Mike Hart, RB, Onondaga

North Carolina
Michael Briggs, LB, Gastonia Ashbrook
Trimaine Goddard, Ath., Roanoke
Tyler Lewis, PK-P, Albemarle
Demario Pressley, DL, Greensboro Dudley

Ohio
Fred Davis, WR/DB, Toledo Rogers
Delbert Ferguson, RB, Youngstown Ursuline
Marcus Freeman, LB, Huber Heights Wayne
Michael Massey, DE, Cleveland St. Ignatius
Anthony Turner, QB, Dayton Chaminade-Julienne
Ernie Wheelright, WR. Columbus Walnut Ridge

Pennsylvania
Dan Connor, LB, Wallingford Strath Haven
Anthony Heygood, RB, Springfield Cardinal O'Hara
Chad Henne, QB, West Lawn Wilson
Andrew Johnson, RB, Pittsburgh Central Catholic
Dan Lawlor, RB, Mechanicsburg Cumberland Valley

Tennessee
Cory Booker, RB, Oak Ridge
Ryan Moore, QB, Chattanooga McCallie School

Texas
D.J. Davis, DB, Fort Worth Dunbar
Graham Harrell, QB, Ennis
Ryan Johnson, DE, Dallas Carter
Matterial Richardson, DB, Marlin

Washington
Trent Tuiasosopo, LB, Everett Mariner

25 PREP TEAMS TO WATCH

BLUE RIDGE, LAKESIDE, AZ (13-0)

The best small-school program in Arizona history continues to reload. Coach Paul Moro's team has won nine Class 3A state titles, including six of the last eight, and has compiled a 63-game win streak. Moro's career record is 182-26-1. The Yellow Jackets enter the 2002 season with a 26-game victory run and have captured 101 of their last 103 games, losing only in two state title games. They have an active 78-game regular-season streak.

DE LA SALLE, CONCORD, CA (12-0)

The Spartans extended their all-time record win streak to 125 games last season and have won 159 of their last 160 starts. Other active streaks include 126 consecutive regular-season wins and scoring in 269 straight games for the team ranked No. 1 nationally the last two years by both *Student Sports Magazine's* FAB 50 and *USA Today's* Super 25. Key returnees include running back Maurice Drew, defensive back Damon Jenkins and offensive lineman Erik Sandie.

POLY, LONG BEACH, CA (12-1)

The Jackrabbits continue to reload after graduating one of the deepest talent pools in the land. Poly is 66-2-1 the last five seasons and remains the team to beat in southern California. Key returnees include offensive lineman Kevin Brown, defensive lineman Junior Lemau'u and junior linebacker Marlin Simmons.

HELIX, LA MESA, CA (12-1)

Running back Reggie Bush, a preseason *Street & Smith's* All-America Top 50 pick, is not only one of the top recruited players in the land but one of the fastest track sprinters. Several other experienced players return, including touted junior linebacker Magnum Mauga.

ST. BONAVENTURE, VENTURA, CA (14-0)

Unbeaten the last three seasons, St. Bonaventure takes a 42-game win streak into the season. Leading the charge is preseason *Street & Smith's* All-America wide receiver Whitney Lewis. Junior two-way back Terrell Lambert also is a standout.

CHATFIELD, LITTLETON, CO (14-0)

The Chargers are coming off the first unbeaten season in the state's largest classification since 1996 and appear poised to repeat as Class 5A state champion. Pre-season *Street & Smith's* All-America running back Lendale White will be seeking his third all-state honor. Touted defensive back Taylor Rivera also returns.

PALM BAY, MELBOURNE, FL (12-1)

The Pirates, simply put, are loaded with individual talent this season after bowing 24-21 in last year's Class 4A state semifinals to eventual champion Tallahassee Lincoln. Preseason *Street & Smith's* All-America fullback Joe Cohen is not the only star. Wide receiver/linebacker Reggie Nelson was a state Mr. Football finalist and junior wide receiver Xavier Carter is one of the fastest sprinters in America. The Pirates are touting 12 players as college prospects.

APOPKA, APOPKA, FL (14-1)

The Blue Darters are coming off a Class 6A state title season and have several key players back, including running back Alan Abrams and option quarterback Kenard Bradford. Four of the top five backs return along with two key blockers in a ball-control offense. The defensive front is solid. The secondary is the main concern.

LINCOLN, TALLAHASSEE, FL (14-1)

The Trojans will be seeking their third state title in the last four years after winning the Class 4A crown last season with several senior standouts. However, Lincoln returns two of the state's top skill-position players in wide receiver/defensive back/kick returner Antonio Cromartie and wide receiver Ryan Gilliam, who will move to quarterback this season.

PARKVIEW, LILBURN, GA (15-0)

The Panthers are loaded in a bid to extend a 30-game win streak and seek a rare third consecutive Class 5A state title while eyeing Georgia's all-time 44-game victory run. With only six senior starters missing, Parkview returns a bevy of veterans, including quarterback Dustin Wade, running back Sean Dawkins and offensive lineman Zeb McKinzey. Also, help is expected from unbeaten junior varsity and freshman teams.

VALDOSTA, VALDOSTA, GA (12-2)

The Wildcats need only five wins to become the first school to reach 800 all-time victories. Coming off a state semifinal loss to eventual champion Parkview, Valdosta returns seven defensive starters and six offensive regulars. Two-way back Eric Williams and defensive tackle John Weatherington will be third-year starters, while junior fullback Corey James is the most touted underclassman.

ST. LOUIS, HONOLULU, HI (10-1-1)

The Crusaders are poised to return to the state title spot after a two-year absence, as several experienced players return from a runner-up squad. The ringleaders should be quarterback Bobby George and all-state defensive lineman Tolifili Liufau. A key contest will be at home against defending national champion Concord (California) De La Salle, which has a 125-game win streak.

BEN DAVIS, INDIANAPOLIS, IN (15-0)

The Giants return seven offensive and six defensive starters plus several experienced backups from last season's unbeaten Class 5A title squad. Tight end Brian Faires may be the most highly recruited senior in a talented class. Jon Polston takes over the quarterback reins from All-America James Banks.

BOYLE COUNTY, DANVILLE, KY (15-0)

The Rebels enter the season with a 45-game win streak and seven starters returning on both sides of the ball. The three-time defending Class 3A state champs open the season against defending Double-A king Bardstown. Key seniors include preseason *Street & Smith's* tackle Brodie Overstreet, plus linebacker Michael Paul Webb and twins Jacob and Adam Tamme.

EVANGEL CHRISTIAN, SHREVEPORT, LA (14-1)

The Eagles could challenge for a national poll title this season with five offensive and seven defensive starters returning from a team that won its seventh state title in as many finals since 1993. Quarterback John David Booty earned national Sophomore Player-of-the-Year honors from *Student Sports Magazine* after passing for 3,991 yards and 46 TDs. Two other juniors will be starting for the third straight year—defensive lineman Chris Bowers and running back/linebacker Jacob Hester.

DEMATHA, HYATTSVILLE, MD (11-0)

The Stags should reload for another national-ranking bid with several talented, experienced players returning from the state's top-ranked team. Included are quarterback Ryan Mitch, fullback/linebacker Corey Sobel, linebacker Omar Hashish and wide receiver Josh Wilson.

BERGEN CATHOLIC, ORADELL, NJ (10-2)

One of New Jersey's perennial contenders appears fortified to make a run for No. 1 this season with several experienced players on hand.

The most highly recruited senior could be tight end Sam Johnson, a 6-foot-3, 240-pound three-year veteran.

INDEPENDENCE, CHARLOTTE, NC (16-0)

The Patriots will take a 30-game win streak into next season and bid for a rare third straight Class 4A state crown in North Carolina. Leading the charge is preseason *Street & Smith's* All-America quarterback Chris Leak, who passed for 4,521 yards and 57 TDs as a junior. Leak was cited as the National Junior and Sophomore of the Year by *Student Sports Magazine* the past two seasons. Other key performers on hand include offensive lineman Scott Shuford and linebacker Jeff Romanelli.

ST. IGNATIUS, CLEVELAND, OH (11-4)

The Wildcats recovered last year from a midseason slump and captured a state-record ninth Division I state crown in the last 14 seasons. Reloading this fall, the Wildcats retain wide receiver/defensive back Tony Gonzalez, the first Ohio State recruit for 2003. Also back is the offensive line's anchor, Kevin Sheridan.

UNION, TULSA, OK (11-1)

The Redskins appear poised to contend for the Class 6A state brass ring that has been held the last six seasons by Jenks. Thirty-two lettermen return, including 18 who started at some time last season. Key veterans on hand include running back Spencer McIllwain, defensive linemen Jarod Naylor and Blake Smith, and placekicker Scott Webb.

JENKS, JENKS, OK (13-0)

The Trojans take a 38-game win streak—and a record six straight Class 6A state championships—into the season, and will contend with a rebuilt defensive unit. Key returnees include two-way lineman Ted Crump, wide receiver/defensive back Zach Edwards, two-way back Aaron Brewer, quarterback Keith Jones and two-way lineman Jame Drury.

CENTRAL DAUPHIN, HARRISBURG, PA (9-2)

Nineteen starters return as this central Pennsylvania team makes a bid for a Class 4A state crown. Quarterback Mike Probst is back to run the offense, with running back/wide receiver Ardon Bransford a potent weapon.

RIVERDALE, MURFREESBORO, TN (15-0)

The Warriors will be seeking their fourth Class 5A state title since 1994 with a bevy of experienced talent returning. Included are all-state wide receiver/defensive back/kick returner Taron Henry, massive offensive lineman Kenya Buford and quarterback Stephen Britton.

CELINA, CELINA, TX (16-0)

The Bobcats enter the season with the nation's second-longest win streak (a state-record 57 in a row) and have won the last four Class AA state crowns and five of the last seven.

PHOEBUS, HAMPTON, VA (13-1)

Phoebus returns several key players from last season's Division 5 state championship team, including preseason *Street & Smith's* All-America Xavier Adibi, who plays defensive end, outside linebacker and fullback. Other touted players on hand include defensive backs Dorian Parker and Philip Brown. Both also play wide receiver on offense. ■

TOP 100 COLLEGE FRESHMEN

QUARTERBACKS

	hometown	college
James Banks	Indianapolis, IN	Tennessee
Trent Edwards	Los Gatos, CA	Stanford
Gavin Dickey	Tallahassee, FL	Florida
Matt Gutierrez	Concord, CA	Michigan
Anthony Martinez	Ashland, VA	Virginia
Reggie McNeal	Lufkin, TX	Texas A&M
Matt Moore	Newhall, CA	UCLA
Ben Olson	Thousand Oaks, CA	Brigham Young
Drew Olson	Piedmont, CA	UCLA
Tyler Palko	Imperial, PA	Pittsburgh
Troy Smith	Cleveland, OH	Ohio State
Isaiah Stanback	Seattle, WA	Washington
Drew Stanton	Farmington Hills, MI	Michigan St.
Marcus Vick	Newport News, VA	Virginia Tech
Vincent Young	Houston, TX	Texas
Justin Zwick	Massillon, OH	Ohio State

RUNNING BACKS/DEFENSIVE BACKS

Jason Allen	Muscle Shoals, AL	Tennessee
Darnell Bing	Long Beach, CA	USC
Lorenzo Booker	Ventura, CA	Florida State
Jason Carter	Jenks, OK	Oklahoma
Maurice Clarett	Warren, OH	Ohio State
A. J. Davis	Durham, NC	N.C. State
Herschel Dennis	Long Beach, CA	USC
Ciatrick Fason	Neptune Beach, FL	Florida
Jeff Francoeur	Lilburn, GA	Clemson
Devin Hester	Riviera Beach, FL	Miami
Michael Johnson	Newport News, VA	Virginia
Edorian McCullough	Garland, TX	Texas
T. A. McLendon	Albemarle, NC	N.C. State
Eric McNeal	Gardena, CA	UCLA
Robert Merrill	San Antonio, TX	TCU
Aaron Miller	Fresno, CA	Oklahoma
Mike Nixon	Phoenix, AZ	UCLA
Jerious Norwood	Brandon, MS	Miss. State
David Richard	St. Louis, MO	Michigan St.
Gerald Riggs Jr.	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee
Nick Turner	Atlanta, GA	Miss. State
Vickiel Vaughn	Plano, TX	Arkansas
Justin Vincent	Lake Charles, LA	LSU
E. J. Underwood	Hamilton, OH	Ohio State
Terrell Walden	Miami, FL	Miami
Leon Washington	Jacksonville, TX	Florida State
Pat Watkins	Tallahassee, FL	Florida State
Darren Williams	Clarksdale, MS	Miss. State
DeShawn Wynn	Cincinnati, OH	Florida

RECEIVERS

Jason Avant	Chicago, IL	Michigan
DaBryan Blanton	Forney, TX	Oklahoma
Kyle Brown	West Bloomfield, MI	Mich. State
Dominique Byrd	Minneapolis, MN	USC
Chris Davis	St. Petersburg, FL	Florida State
Skyler Green	Marrero, LA	LSU
Akieem Jolla	New Orleans, LA	Miami
Marcedes Lewis	Long Beach, CA	UCLA
Ryan Moore	Orlando, FL	Miami
Ben Obomanu	Selma, AL	Auburn
Dishon Platt	Punta Gorda, FL	Florida State
Leonard Pope	Americus, GA	Georgia
Mario Raley	Charlotte, NC	Georgia
Maurice Stovall	Radnor, PA	Notre Dame
Richard Washington	Fort Myers, FL	N.C. State
Eric Winston	Midland, TX	Miami

INTERIOR LINEMEN

Justin Blalock	Plano, TX	Texas
Larry Dibbles	Lancaster, TX	Texas
Mark Farris	Pittsburgh, PA	Penn State
Max Jean-Gilles	Miami Beach, FL	Georgia
Ketrick Golston	Tyrone, GA	Georgia
Brandon Jefferies	Shelby, NC	Tennessee
Winston Justice	Long Beach, CA	USC
Derek Landri	Concord, CA	Notre Dame
Fred Mantua	Wilmington, CA	USC
Marco Martin	Mesquite, TX	Texas
Derek Morris	Huntersville, NC	Ohio State
Haloti Ngata	Salt Lake City, UT	Oregon
Quinn Pitcock	Piqua, OH	Ohio State
Nathan Rhodes	Bakersfield, CA	Washington
Kwa Kou Robinson	Brooklyn, NY	Virginia
Rob Smith	Fort Thomas, KY	Tennessee
Albert Toeaina	Pittsburg, CA	Oregon
Gabe Watson	Southfield, MI	Michigan
Kyle Williams	Dallas, TX	Southern Cal
Manual Wright	Long Beach, CA	Southern Cal
Rodrique Wright	Alief, TX	Texas

LINEBACKERS/DEFENSIVE ENDS

Bryan Andrews	Lima, OH	Wake Forest
Ahmad Brooks	Woodbridge, VA	Virginia
Mike D'Andrea	Avon Lake, OH	Ohio State
Marvin Byrdsong	Longview, TX	Miss. State
Buster Davis	Daytona Beach, FL	Florida State
Tamba Hall	Teaneak, NJ	Penn State
Aaron Harris	Mesquite, TX	Texas
Ricardo Hurley	Greenwood, SC	S. Carolina
Berkeley Hutchinson	Long Beach, NJ	Rutgers
Marcus Jackson	Norcross, GA	Georgia
Julian Jenkins	College Park, GA	Stanford
Travis Leitko	The Woodlands, TX	Notre Dame
Donny Mateaki	Honolulu, HI	Washington
A. J. Nicholson	Winston-Salem, NC	Florida State
Kai Parham	Virginia Beach, VA	Virginia
Bryan Pickryl	Jenks, OK	Texas
Deljuan Robinson	Hernando, MS	Miss. State
Kamerion Wimbley	Wichita, KS	Florida State

2002–03 Bowl Schedule

Bowl	Date/Time	TV	Matchup
New Orleans Bowl	Dec. 17, 9 p.m.	ESPN2	C-USA vs. Sun Belt champion
GMAC Bowl	Dec. 18, 8 p.m.	ESPN2	C-USA #2 vs. MAC
Tangerine Bowl	Dec. 23, 5:30 p.m.	ESPN	Big 12 #4-5 vs. ACC #4-5
Las Vegas Bowl	Dec. 25, 4:30 p.m.	ESPN	Mountain West #2 vs. Pac-10
Hawaii Bowl	Dec. 25, 8 p.m.	ESPN	C-USA vs. WAC
Motor City Bowl	Dec. 26, 5 p.m.	ESPN	MAC #1 or 2 vs. At Large
Insight.com Bowl	Dec. 26, TBA	ESPN2	Big East #3* vs. Pac-10
Houston Bowl	Dec. 27, 1 p.m.	ESPN	Big 12 #5-7 vs. C-USA
Independence Bowl	Dec. 27, 4:30 p.m.	ESPN	Big 12 #5-7 vs. SEC
Holiday Bowl	Dec. 27, 8 p.m.	ESPN	Pac-10 #2 vs. Big 12 #3
Continental Tire Bowl	Dec. 28, early afternoon	ESPN	Big East vs. ACC #5
Alamo Bowl	Dec. 28, 7 p.m.	ESPN	Big Ten #4 vs. Big 12 #4
Seattle Bowl	Dec. 30, 2 p.m.	ESPN	Mountain West #4 vs. ACC #6
Music City Bowl	Dec. 30, TBA	ESPN	Big Ten vs. SEC
Humanitarian Bowl	Dec. 31, Noon	ESPN	WAC vs. At Large
Sun Bowl	Dec. 31, 2 p.m.	CBS	Big Ten #5 vs. Pac-10 #3
Silicon Valley Classic	Dec. 31, 3:30 p.m.	Fox Sports	WAC vs. At Large
Liberty Bowl	Dec. 31, 3:30 p.m.	ESPN	C-USA #1 vs. Mountain West #1
Peach Bowl	Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m.	ESPN	ACC #3 vs. SEC #4
San Francisco Bowl	Dec. 31, 10:30 p.m.	ESPN	Mountain West vs. Big East
Outback Bowl	Jan. 1, 11 a.m.	ESPN	Big Ten #3 vs. SEC #3
Cotton Bowl	Jan. 1, 11 a.m.	FOX	Big 12 #2 vs. SEC*
Gator Bowl	Jan. 1, 12:30 p.m.	NBC	Big East #2* vs. ACC #2
Citrus Bowl	Jan. 1, 1 p.m.	ABC	Big Ten #2 vs. SEC
Rose Bowl	Jan. 1, 5 p.m.	ABC	Big Ten vs. Pac-10
Sugar Bowl	Jan. 1, 8:30 p.m.	ABC	BCS vs. BCS
Orange Bowl	Jan. 2, 8 p.m.	ABC	BCS vs. BCS
Fiesta Bowl	Jan. 3, 8 p.m.	ABC	BCS #1 vs. BCS #2 *(National Championship Game)*

**Bowl can select Notre Dame or a Big East team if eligible*
All Times Eastern

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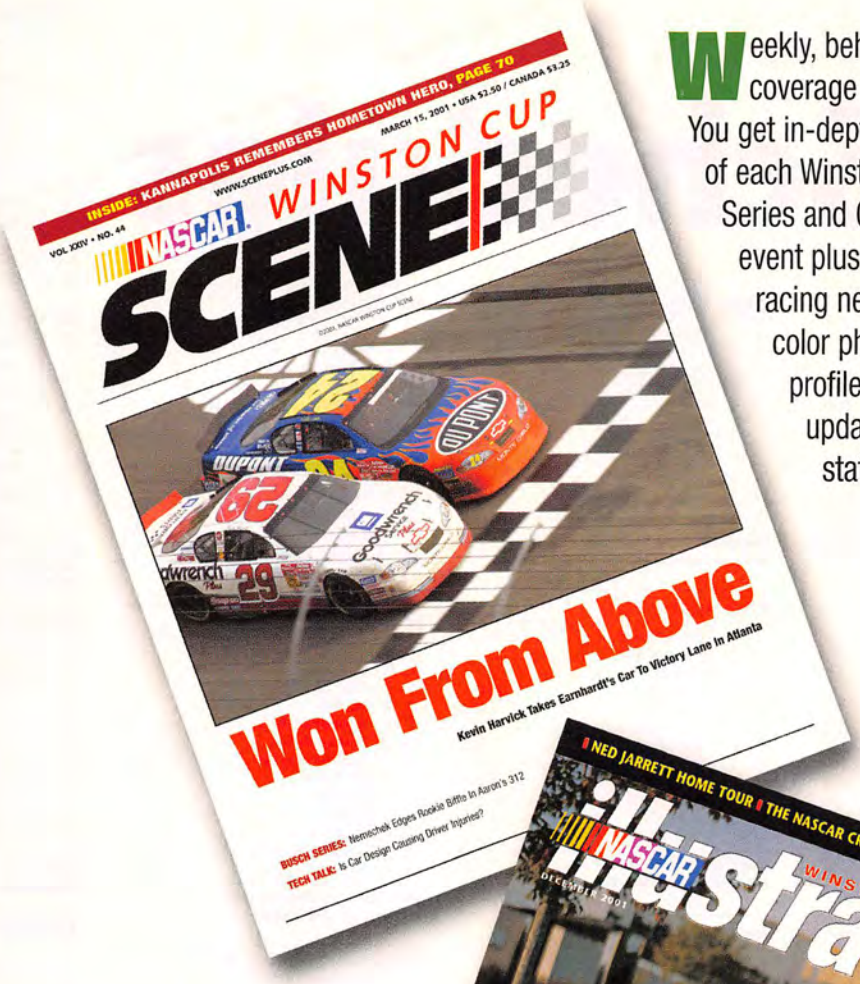

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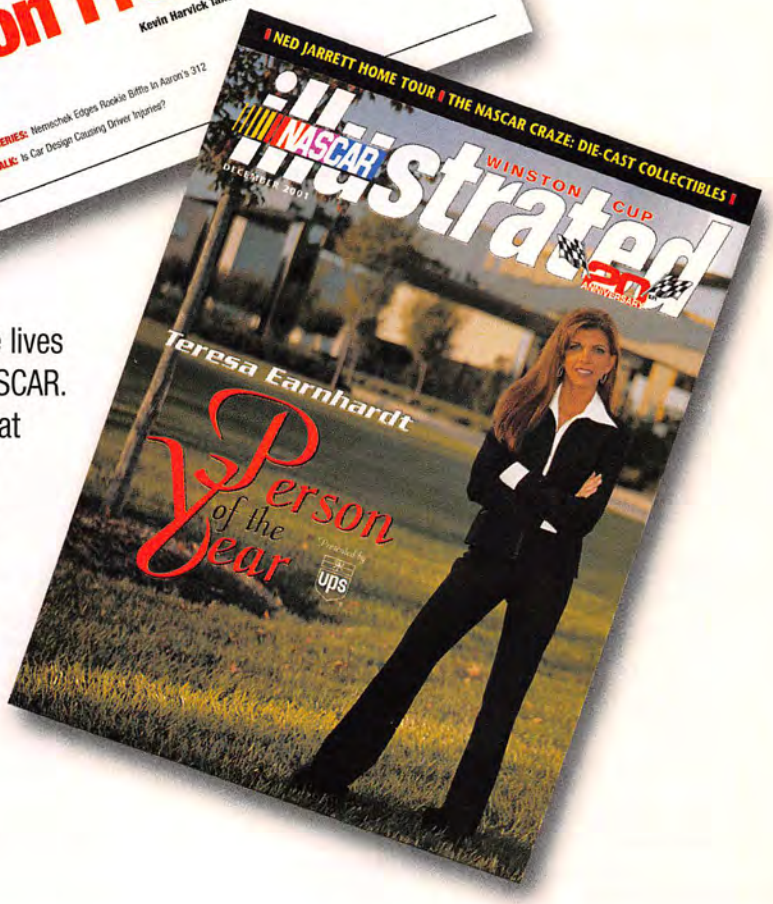

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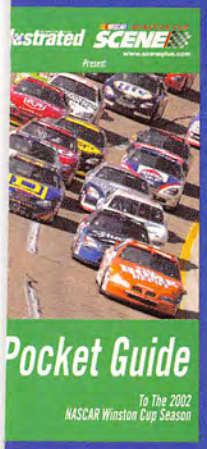

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NASCAR WINSTON CUP illustrated

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2002 NCAA Division I Schedules

Air Force Air Force Academy, CO

A. 31	Northwestern	
S. 7	New Mexico	33-52
S. 21	@CALIFORNIA	
S. 28	@UTAH	38-37
O. 5	Navy	24-18
O. 12	Brigham Young	33-63
O. 19	Notre Dame	
O. 26	@WYOMING	24-13
O. 31	Colorado State	21-28
N. 9	@ARMY	34-24
N. 16	@UNLV	10-34
N. 23	San Diego State	45-21

Coach: *Fisher DeBerry* ***Colors:*** *Silver & Blue*
Nickname: *Falcons* ***2001 Record:*** *6-6*

Akron Akron, OH

A. 31	@IOWA	
S. 7	@MARYLAND	
S. 14	Central Michigan	
S. 21	@VIRGINIA	
S. 28	Miami (OH)	27-30
O. 5	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	65-62 (OT)
O. 12	Liberty	
O. 26	@UCF	17-57
N. 2	Marshall	33-50
N. 9	@OHIO	31-29
N. 16	Buffalo	41-14
N. 23	@KENT STATE	14-10

Coach: *Lee Owens* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Zips* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL

A. 31	Middle Tennessee State	
S. 7	@OKLAHOMA	
S. 14	North Texas	
S. 21	Southern Mississippi	28-15
S. 28	@ARKANSAS	31-10
O. 5	Georgia	
O. 19	Mississippi	24-27
O. 26	@TENNESSEE	24-35
N. 2	@VANDERBILT	12-9
N. 9	Mississippi State	24-17
N. 16	@LSU	21-35
N. 23	Auburn	31-7

Coach: *Dennis Franchione* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & White*
Nickname: *Crimson Tide* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Alabama A&M Normal, AL

A. 31	@JACKSONVILLE STATE	
S. 14	Grambling State	7-30
S. 28	@TEXAS SOUTHERN	24-10
S. 28	Prairie View A&M	
O. 6	Southern University+	20-23
O. 12	Tennessee State	6-27
O. 19	Mississippi Valley State	40-22
O. 26	@ALABAMA STATE	0-35
N. 9	@JACKSON STATE	14-26
N. 16	Alcorn State	35-40
N. 23	@ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	35-0

+ At Indianapolis, IN

Coach: *Anthony Jones* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Alabama State Montgomery, AL

S. 1	Miles	
S. 7	@CHATTANOOGA	
S. 14	Texas Southern	27-24
S. 21	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	23-17
S. 28	@ALCORN STATE	17-20
O. 5	Morris Brown	
O. 12	Jackson State+	61-58
O. 26	Alabama A&M	35-0
N. 9	@GRAMBLING STATE	31-38
N. 16	Mississippi Valley State	57-24
N. 23	@SAVANNAH STATE	
N. 28	Tuskegee	27-31

+ At Mobile, AL

Coach: *L.C. Cole* ***Colors:*** *Black & Old Gold*
Nickname: *Hornets* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Albany Albany, NY

S. 7	@MONTANA	
S. 14	Central Connecticut State	
S. 21	@SACRED HEART	17-32
S. 28	@STONY BROOK	28-18
O. 5	Wagner	35-30
O. 12	@DRAKE	
O. 19	Canisius	28-6
O. 26	St. Francis (PA)	24-14
N. 2	@ROBERT MORRIS	31-42
N. 9	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
N. 16	Monmouth (NJ)	19-10

Coach: *Bob Ford* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Great Danes* ***2001 Record:*** *7-3*

Alcorn State Lorman, MS

A. 31	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	17-10
S. 7	@GRAMBLING STATE	22-37
S. 21	@HAMPTON+	
S. 28	Alabama State	20-17
O. 5	Fort Valley State	16-31
O. 12	@PRAIRIE VIEW A&M	48-20
O. 19	@SAMFORD	17-7
N. 2	@CAL POLY	12-21
N. 9	@MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	35-28
N. 16	@ALABAMA A&M	40-35
N. 23	@JACKSON STATE	28-52

+ At East Rutherford, NJ

Coach: *Johnny Thomas* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Braves* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Appalachian State Boone, NC

A. 31	@MARSHALL	
S. 14	Eastern Kentucky	
S. 21	@LIBERTY	46-26
S. 28	Citadel	8-6
O. 5	@EAST TENNESSEE STATE	33-14
O. 12	Furman	22-28
O. 19	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	24-38
O. 26	Wofford	34-23
N. 2	@CHATTANOOGA	51-14
N. 9	Virginia Military	27-17
N. 16	@WESTERN CAROLINA	34-24

Coach: *Jerry Moore* ***Colors:*** *Black & Gold*
Nickname: *Mountaineers* ***2001 Record:*** *9-4*

Arizona Tucson, AZ

A. 29	Northern Arizona	
S. 14	Utah	
S. 21	@WISCONSIN	
S. 28	North Texas	
O. 5	Oregon	28-63
O. 12	@WASHINGTON	28-31
O. 19	@STANFORD	37-51
O. 26	Washington State	21-48
N. 2	@OREGON STATE	3-38
N. 9	UCLA	
N. 16	@CALIFORNIA	38-24
N. 23	Arizona State	34-21

Coach: *John Mackovic* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Navy*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Arizona State Tempe, AZ

A. 24	@NEBRASKA	
A. 31	Eastern Washington	
S. 7	UCF	
S. 14	@SAN DIEGO STATE	38-7
S. 28	Stanford	28-51
O. 5	North Carolina	
O. 12	Oregon State	41-24
O. 19	@OREGON	24-42
O. 26	Washington	31-33
N. 2	@WASHINGTON STATE	16-28
N. 9	California	
N. 16	@USC	17-48
N. 23	@ARIZONA	21-34

Coach: *Dirk Koetter* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Sun Devils* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Arkansas Fayetteville, AR

S. 7	Boise State	
S. 14	South Florida	
S. 28	Alabama	10-31
O. 5	@TENNESSEE	3-13
O. 12	@AUBURN	42-17
O. 19	Kentucky	
O. 26	Mississippi	58-56 (OT)
N. 2	Troy State	
N. 9	@SOUTH CAROLINA	10-7
N. 16	Louisiana-Lafayette	
N. 23	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	24-21
N. 29	LSU	38-41

Coach: *Houston Nutt* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & White*
Nickname: *Razorbacks* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Arkansas State State University, AR

A. 25	@VIRGINIA TECH	
A. 31	San Jose State	
S. 7	Tulsa	
S. 14	@ILLINOIS	
S. 21	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	7-16
S. 28	Tennessee-Martin	
O. 5	Middle Tennessee State	6-54
O. 12	@MISSISSIPPI	17-35
O. 19	North Texas	0-45
O. 26	New Mexico State	17-28
N. 2	Southern Utah	
N. 9	@LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	26-20
N. 16	@IDAHO	34-31

Coach: *Steve Roberts* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Black*
Nickname: *Indians* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Arkansas-Pine Bluff Pine Bluff, AR

A. 31	@ALCORN STATE	10-17
S. 7	@MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	19-9
S. 14	Southern University	14-35
S. 21	@ALABAMA STATE	17-23
S. 28	Kentucky State+	20-13
O. 12	@TEXAS SOUTHERN	28-22
O. 19	@GRAMBLING STATE	7-60
N. 2	Jackson State	9-14
N. 9	Prairie View A&M	16-35
N. 16	Lane	14-7
N. 23	Alabama A&M	0-35

+ At St. Louis, MO

Coach: *Lee Hardman* ***Colors:*** *Black & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Lions* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Army West Point, NY

S. 7	Holy Cross	
S. 14	@RUTGERS	
S. 21	Louisville	
S. 28	Southern Mississippi	
O. 5	@EAST CAROLINA	26-49
O. 12	Texas Christian	20-38
O. 19	@HOUSTON	28-14
O. 26	UAB	3-55
N. 9	Air Force	24-34
N. 16	@TULANE	42-35
N. 23	@MEMPHIS	10-42
D. 7	@NAVY@	26-17

Coach: *Todd Berry* ***Colors:*** *Black, Gold & Gray*
Nickname: *Black Knights* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Auburn Auburn, AL

S. 2	@USC	
S. 7	Western Carolina	
S. 14	Vanderbilt	24-21
S. 21	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	16-14
S. 28	Syracuse	14-31
O. 12	Arkansas	17-42
O. 19	@FLORIDA	23-20
O. 26	LSU	14-27
N. 2	@MISSISSIPPI	27-21
N. 9	Louisiana-Monroe	
N. 16	Georgia	24-17
N. 23	@ALABAMA	7-31

Coach: *Tommy Tuberville* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Blue*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Austin Peay State Clarksville, TN

A. 29	Cumberland University	
S. 7	@CAMPBELLSVILLE	27-45
S. 14	Centre	
S. 21	Dayton	
S. 28	@JACKSONVILLE	7-38
O. 5	@TROY STATE	
O. 12	@BUTLER	
O. 19	@KENTUCKY WESLEYAN	59-7
O. 26	Morehead State	24-29
N. 2	@ST. JOSEPH'S (IN)	14-17
N. 9	Davidson	12-17
N. 16	@VALPARAISO	37-13

Coach: *Bill Schmitz* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Governors* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Ball State Muncie, IN

S. 7	@MISSOURI	
S. 14	Indiana State	
S. 21	@CLEMSON	
S. 28	@CONNECTICUT	10-5
O. 5	Northern Illinois	29-33
O. 12	@TOLEDO	24-20
O. 19	Eastern Michigan	35-14
O. 26	@BOWLING GREEN	
N. 2	Western Michigan	35-31
N. 16	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	38-34
N. 23	Buffalo	
N. 30	@MARSHALL	

Coach: *Bill Lynch* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & White*
Nickname: *Cardinals* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Baylor Waco, TX

A. 31	@CALIFORNIA	
S. 7	Samford	
S. 14	@NEW MEXICO	16-13 (OT)
S. 21	Tulsa	
O. 5	Kansas	
O. 12	Texas A&M	10-16
O. 19	@COLORADO	
O. 26	Kansas State	
N. 2	@TEXAS TECH	19-63
N. 9	@TEXAS	10-49
N. 16	Oklahoma	17-33
N. 23	@OKLAHOMA STATE	22-38

Coach: *Kevin Steele* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Bethune-Cookman Daytona Beach, FL

A. 31	Savannah State+	
S. 7	@FLORIDA ATLANTIC	28-31
S. 14	@MORRIS BROWN	30-0
S. 21	Florida International#	
S. 28	Norfolk State	32-7
O. 5	@MORGAN STATE	35-24
O. 12	Delaware State	49-24
O. 19	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	24-10
N. 2	@NORTH CAROLINA A&T	14-16
N. 9	@HAMPTON	41-44
N. 16	Howard	29-18
N. 23	Florida A&M$	21-31

+ At Jacksonville, FL
# At Fort Lauderdale, FL
$ At Orlando, FL

Coach: *Alvin Wyatt* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *6-4*

Boise State Boise, ID

A. 31	Idaho	45-13
S. 7	@ARKANSAS	
S. 14	@WYOMING	
S. 28	Utah State	
O. 5	Hawaii	28-21
O. 12	@TULSA	41-10
O. 19	Fresno State	35-30
O. 26	@SAN JOSE STATE	56-6
N. 2	@UTEP	42-17
N. 9	Rice	14-45
N. 16	Louisiana Tech	42-48
N. 23	@NEVADA	49-7

Coach: *Dan Hawkins* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Orange*
Nickname: *Broncos* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Boston College Chestnut Hill, MA

A. 31	Connecticut	
S. 7	Stanford	22-38
S. 21	@MIAMI (FL)	7-18
S. 28	Central Michigan	
O. 10	Virginia Tech	20-34
O. 19	Navy	38-21
O. 26	@PITTSBURGH	45-7
N. 2	@NOTRE DAME	21-17
N. 9	@WEST VIRGINIA	34-10
N. 16	Syracuse	28-39
N. 23	@TEMPLE	33-10
N. 30	Rutgers	38-7

Coach: *Tom O'Brien* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

2001 scores at right

* BOWL RESULTS NOT INCLUDED IN 2001 RECORD

Schedules compiled by STATS Inc.

Bowling Green Bowling Green, OH

A. 31	Tennessee Tech	
S. 14	Missouri	20-13
S. 21	@KANSAS	
O. 5	Ohio	17-0
O. 12	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	
O. 19	Western Michigan	28-37
O. 26	Ball State	
N. 2	@KENT STATE	24-7
N. 9	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	
N. 16	@SOUTH FLORIDA	
N. 23	Eastern Michigan	
N. 30	@TOLEDO	56-21

Coach: *Urban Meyer* ***Colors:*** *Brown & Orange*
Nickname: *Falcons* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Brigham Young Provo, UT

A. 29	Syracuse	
S. 6	Hawaii	45-72
S. 14	@NEVADA	52-7
S. 21	@GEORGIA TECH	
O. 4	@UTAH STATE	54-34
O. 12	@AIR FORCE	63-33
O. 19	UNLV	35-31
O. 24	@COLORADO STATE	56-34
N. 2	San Diego State	59-21
N. 9	Wyoming	41-34
N. 16	New Mexico	24-20
N. 23	@UTAH	24-21

Coach: *Gary Crowton* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Cougars* ***2001 Record:*** *12-1*

Brown Providence, RI

S. 21	@TOWSON	
S. 28	Harvard	20-27
O. 5	@RHODE ISLAND	38-42
O. 12	@FORDHAM	40-23
O. 19	@PRINCETON	35-24
O. 26	Cornell	49-21
N. 2	@PENNSYLVANIA	14-27
N. 9	Yale	37-34
N. 16	@DARTMOUTH	41-16
N. 23	Columbia	45-21

Coach: *Phil Estes* ***Colors:*** *Brown, Red & White*
Nickname: *Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *6-3*

Bucknell Lewisburg, PA

S. 7	@DUQUESNE	
S. 14	@ST. MARY'S (CA)	38-6
S. 21	Cornell	
S. 28	Delaware State	
O. 5	Colgate	13-15
O. 19	@TOWSON	51-10
O. 26	@GEORGETOWN	34-0
N. 2	@HOLY CROSS	21-14
N. 9	Lafayette	17-16
N. 16	@LEHIGH	14-21
N. 23	Fordham	12-17

Coach: *Tom Gadd* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Orange*
Nickname: *Bison* ***2001 Record:*** *6-4*

Buffalo Buffalo, NY

A. 29	Lehigh	
S. 7	@RUTGERS	15-31
S. 14	Connecticut	37-20
S. 21	@MINNESOTA	
S. 28	@OHIO	44-0
O. 5	Western Michigan	
O. 12	@MARSHALL	14-34
O. 19	Miami (OH)	14-31
O. 26	Kent State	13-35
N. 9	UCF	
N. 16	@AKRON	14-41
N. 23	@BALL STATE	

Coach: *Jim Hofher* ***Colors:*** *Royal Blue & White*
Nickname: *Bulls* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Butler Indianapolis, IN

S. 7	Tiffin	
S. 14	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
S. 21	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	
S. 28	@MOREHEAD STATE	29-27
O. 5	@DAYTON	7-45
O. 12	Austin Peay	
O. 19	San Diego	19-16
O. 26	Drake	39-41
N. 2	@VALPARAISO	38-21
N. 9	@QUINCY	48-27

Coach: *Ken LaRose* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *5-5*

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CA

A. 29	@TOLEDO	
S. 7	Northern Arizona	
S. 14	@KENT STATE	
S. 21	@SACRAMENTO STATE	55-21
S. 28	Northern Iowa	13-31
O. 12	@SOUTHERN UTAH	34-24
O. 19	@ST. MARY'S (CA)	10-0
O. 26	California-Davis	31-28
N. 2	Alcorn State	21-12
N. 9	Humboldt State	
N. 16	@IDAHO STATE	
N. 23	Weber State	40-43 (OT)

Coach: *Rich Ellerson* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Mustangs* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

California Berkeley, CA

A. 31	Baylor	
S. 7	New Mexico State	
S. 14	@MICHIGAN STATE	
S. 21	Air Force	
S. 28	Washington State	20-51
O. 5	@WASHINGTON	28-31
O. 12	@USC	14-55
O. 19	UCLA	17-56
O. 26	@OREGON STATE	10-19
N. 9	@ARIZONA STATE	
N. 16	Arizona	24-38
N. 23	Stanford	28-35

Coach: *Jeff Tedford* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Canisius Buffalo, NY

S. 7	@ST. JOHN'S (NY)	
S. 14	@MARIST	20-24
S. 21	Siena	34-17
S. 28	St. Peter's	0-63
O. 5	@IONA	24-27
O. 12	La Salle	14-21
O. 19	@ALBANY (NY)	6-28
O. 26	@FAIRFIELD	44-63
N. 2	@DAYTON	18-56
N. 9	Duquesne	15-63
N. 16	@STONY BROOK	

Coach: *Edward Argast* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Griffins* ***2001 Record:*** *1-9*

Central Connecticut State New Britain, CT

A. 31	@MAINE	
S. 7	@MASSACHUSETTS	
S. 14	@ALBANY (NY)	
S. 21	@ROBERT MORRIS	18-38
S. 28	St. John's (NY)	12-7
O. 5	Gannon	
O. 12	St. Francis (PA)	19-6
O. 19	@MONMOUTH (NJ)	14-20
O. 26	@SACRED HEART	21-41
N. 2	Stony Brook	15-17
N. 9	Wagner	17-24 (OT)

Coach: *Paul Schudel* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Blue Devils* ***2001 Record:*** *2-7*

Central Michigan Mount Pleasant, MI

A. 29	Sam Houston State	
S. 7	Wyoming	
S. 14	@AKRON	
S. 21	@INDIANA	
S. 28	@BOSTON COLLEGE	
O. 12	Bowling Green	
O. 19	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	24-33
O. 26	Marshall	21-42
N. 2	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	35-30
N. 9	@TOLEDO	28-52
N. 16	Ball State	34-38
N. 23	Western Michigan	17-20

Coach: *Mike DeBord* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Chippewas* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Charleston Southern Charleston, SC

A. 31	Virginia Military	
S. 7	North Greenville	38-0
S. 14	@PRESBYTERIAN	10-19
S. 21	West Virginia State	49-0
S. 28	@WEST LIBERTY STATE	
O. 12	@SAVANNAH STATE	
O. 19	@LIBERTY	31-45
O. 26	Jacksonville	28-7
N. 2	@SOUTH FLORIDA	
N. 9	Gardner-Webb	
N. 16	Elon	16-39
N. 21	@CITADEL	

Coach: *David Dowd* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Buccaneers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Chattanooga Chattanooga, TN

A. 31	@WEST VIRGINIA	
S. 7	Alabama State	
S. 14	@TENNESSEE TECH	
S. 21	Gardner-Webb	
S. 28	Georgia Southern	7-70
O. 5	@WOFFORD	29-26
O. 19	Virginia Military	16-19 (OT)
O. 26	@WESTERN CAROLINA	3-21
N. 2	Appalachian State	14-51
N. 9	@CITADEL	17-20 (OT)
N. 16	East Tennessee State	10-32
N. 23	@FURMAN	10-42

Coach: *Donnie Kirkpatrick* ***Colors:*** *Navy Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Mocs* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Cincinnati Cincinnati, OH

S. 2	Texas Christian	
S. 14	West Virginia	
S. 21	Ohio State	
S. 28	@TEMPLE	
O. 5	Miami (OH)	14-21
O. 12	@TULANE	46-33
O. 19	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	
O. 26	Memphis	36-34
N. 2	@EAST CAROLINA	26-28
N. 9	@LOUISVILLE	13-28
N. 16	Houston	29-28
N. 23	@HAWAII	
N. 30	UAB	31-17

Coach: *Rick Minter* ***Colors:*** *Red & Black*
Nickname: *Bearcats* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Citadel Charleston, SC

S. 7	@LSU	
S. 14	Delaware	
S. 21	Western Carolina	25-28
S. 28	@APPALACHIAN STATE	6-8
O. 5	@WYOMING	
O. 12	East Tennessee State	21-23
O. 19	@FURMAN	7-30
O. 26	Georgia Southern	6-14
N. 2	@WOFFORD	0-13
N. 9	Chattanooga	20-17 (OT)
N. 16	Virginia Military	49-7
N. 21	Charleston Southern	

Coach: *Ellis Johnson* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Clemson Clemson, SC

A. 31	@GEORGIA	
S. 7	Louisiana Tech	
S. 14	Georgia Tech	47-44 (OT)
S. 21	Ball State	
O. 3	@FLORIDA STATE	27-41
O. 12	@VIRGINIA	24-26
O. 19	Wake Forest	21-14
O. 26	North Carolina State	45-37
N. 2	@DUKE	59-31
N. 9	@NORTH CAROLINA	3-38
N. 16	Maryland	20-37
N. 23	South Carolina	15-20

Coach: *Tommy Bowden* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Orange*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Colgate Hamilton, NY

S. 7	Villanova	14-38
S. 14	@FORDHAM	21-9
S. 21	Dartmouth	
S. 28	Columbia	
O. 5	@BUCKNELL	15-13
O. 12	@PRINCETON	35-10
O. 19	@CORNELL	35-32
O. 26	@TOWSON	37-5
N. 2	Lafayette	20-16
N. 9	@LEHIGH	22-25
N. 16	Georgetown	
N. 23	Holy Cross	35-7

Coach: *Dick Biddle* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Red Raiders* ***2001 Record:*** *7-3*

Colorado Boulder, CO

A. 31	Colorado State+	41-14
S. 7	San Diego State	
S. 14	USC	
S. 21	@UCLA	
O. 5	Kansas State	16-6
O. 12	@KANSAS	27-16
O. 19	Baylor	
O. 26	Texas Tech	
N. 2	@OKLAHOMA	
N. 9	@MISSOURI	38-24
N. 16	Iowa State	40-27
N. 29	@NEBRASKA	62-36

+ Denver, CO

Coach: *Gary Barnett* ***Colors:*** *Silver, Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Buffaloes* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

Colorado State Fort Collins, CO

A. 22	@VIRGINIA	
A. 31	@COLORADO	14-41
S. 7	@UCLA	
S. 14	Louisville	2-7
S. 28	@NEVADA	35-18
O. 4	@FRESNO STATE	22-25 (OT)
O. 12	Wyoming	42-14
O. 19	@UTAH	19-17
O. 24	Brigham Young	34-56
O. 31	@AIR FORCE	28-21
N. 16	@SAN DIEGO STATE	7-14
N. 23	New Mexico	24-17
N. 30	UNLV	26-24

Coach: *Sonny Lubick* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Rams* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Columbia New York, NY

S. 21	Fordham	10-41
S. 28	@COLGATE	
O. 5	Princeton	11-44
O. 12	Lafayette	14-31
O. 19	@PENNSYLVANIA	7-35
O. 26	Dartmouth	27-20
N. 2	@YALE	28-14
N. 9	@HARVARD	33-45
N. 16	Cornell	35-28
N. 23	@BROWN	21-45

Coach: *Ray Tellier* ***Colors:*** *Columbia Blue & White*
Nickname: *Lions* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Connecticut Storrs, CT

A. 31	@BOSTON COLLEGE	
S. 7	Georgia Tech	
S. 14	@BUFFALO	20-37
S. 21	Ohio	
S. 28	Ball State	5-10
O. 5	@MIAMI (FL)	
O. 19	Temple	7-56
O. 26	@VANDERBILT	
N. 2	Florida Atlantic	
N. 9	Kent State	
N. 16	@NAVY	
N. 23	@IOWA STATE	

Coach: *Randy Edsall* ***Colors:*** *Flag Blue & White*
Nickname: *Huskies* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Cornell Ithaca, NY

S. 21	@BUCKNELL	
S. 28	Yale	13-40
O. 5	Towson	
O. 12	@HARVARD	6-26
O. 19	Colgate	32-35
O. 26	@BROWN	21-49
N. 2	Princeton	10-7
N. 9	Dartmouth	28-24
N. 16	@COLUMBIA	28-35
N. 23	Pennsylvania	14-38

Coach: *Tim Pendergast* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Big Red* ***2001 Record:*** *2-7*

Dartmouth Hanover, NH

S. 21	@COLGATE	
S. 28	New Hampshire	38-42
O. 5	@PENNSYLVANIA	20-21
O. 12	Yale	32-27
O. 19	Holy Cross	17-49
O. 26	@COLUMBIA	20-27
N. 2	Harvard	21-31
N. 9	@CORNELL	24-28
N. 16	Brown	16-41
N. 23	@PRINCETON	14-35

Coach: *John Lyons* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Big Green* ***2001 Record:*** *1-8*

Davidson Davidson, NC

S. 7	@VIRGINIA MILITARY	
S. 14	Jacksonville	3-45
S. 21	@NEWBERRY	
S. 28	Emory & Henry	23-6
O. 5	Morehead State	17-28
O. 12	Georgetown	24-26
O. 19	@VALPARAISO	24-7
N. 2	@HAMPDEN-SYDNEY	37-19
N. 9	@AUSTIN PEAY	17-12

Coach: *Mike Toop* ***Colors:*** *Red & Black*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *5-4*

Dayton Dayton, OH

S. 7	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	70-0
S. 14	Robert Morris	37-9
S. 21	@AUSTIN PEAY	
S. 28	Duquesne	42-16
O. 5	Butler	45-7
O. 12	@VALPARAISO	49-3
O. 19	Drake	24-23
O. 26	@TIFFIN	
N. 2	Canisius	56-18
N. 9	Morehead State	42-22
N. 16	@SAN DIEGO	35-14

Coach: *Mike Kelly* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Flyers* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Delaware Newmark, DE

A.	29	Georgia Southern	7-38
S.	7	@RICHMOND	10-6
S.	14	@CITADEL	
S.	21	West Chester	
S.	28	@WILLIAM & MARY	17-21
O.	5	Northeastern	7-20
O.	12	James Madison	28-3
O.	19	@RHODE ISLAND	7-10
O.	26	New Hampshire	49-36
N.	2	@MASSACHUSETTS	35-7
N.	9	@MAINE	
N.	23	Villanova	14-19

Coach: K.C. Keeler *Colors:* Blue & Gold
Nickname: Blue Hens *2001 Record:* 4-6

Delaware State Dover, DE

A.	31	@MORRIS BROWN	
S.	7	Savannah State	45-22
S.	14	Northwestern State	
S.	21	Florida A&M	17-35
S.	28	@BUCKNELL	
O.	5	Hampton	20-31
O.	12	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN	24-49
O.	26	@MORGAN STATE	38-12
N.	2	South Carolina State	21-42
N.	9	North Carolina A&T	30-36
N.	16	@NORFOLK STATE	43-13
N.	23	@HOWARD	43-31

Coach: Benjamin Blacknall *Colors:* Blue & Red
Nickname: Hornets *2001 Record:* 5-6

Drake Des Moines, IA

A.	29	@WESTERN ILLINOIS	
S.	7	Truman State	29-40
S.	14	@MISSOURI-ROLLA	
S.	21	Wisconsin-La Crosse	
S.	28	@QUINCY	33-7
O.	5	Valparaiso	7-17
O.	12	Albany (NY)	
O.	19	@DAYTON	23-24
O.	26	@BUTLER	41-39
N.	2	San Diego	24-31
N.	9	@ST. MARY'S (CA)	

Coach: Rob Ash *Colors:* Blue & White
Nickname: Bulldogs *2001 Record:* 5-5

Duke Durham, NC

A.	31	East Carolina	
S.	7	Louisville	
S.	14	@NORTHWESTERN	7-44
S.	21	@FLORIDA STATE	13-55
S.	28	@NAVY	
O.	5	Virginia	10-31
O.	12	@WAKE FOREST	35-42
O.	19	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	31-55
O.	26	Maryland	17-59
N.	2	Clemson	31-59
N.	16	@GEORGIA TECH	10-37
N.	23	North Carolina	17-52

Coach: Carl Franks *Colors:* Royal Blue & White
Nickname: Blue Devils *2001 Record:* 0-11

Duquesne Pittsburgh, PA

S.	7	Bucknell	
S.	14	@SIENA	55-0
S.	21	Marist	21-10
S.	28	@DAYTON	16-42
O.	5	Lafayette	
O.	12	@ST. PETER'S	28-10
O.	19	St. John's (NY)	
O.	26	@LA SALLE	34-0
N.	2	Iona	
N.	9	@CANISIUS	63-15
N.	16	Fairfield	51-19

Coach: Greg Gattuso *Colors:* Red & Blue
Nickname: Dukes *2001 Record:* 8-3

East Carolina Greenville, NC

A.	31	@DUKE	
S.	7	@WAKE FOREST	19-21
S.	14	Tulane	51-24
S.	28	@WEST VIRGINIA	
O.	5	Army	49-26
O.	19	South Florida	
O.	26	@LOUISVILLE	34-39
N.	2	Cincinnati	28-26
N.	9	@HOUSTON	
N.	16	@UAB	
N.	23	Texas Christian	37-30
N.	30	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	21-28

Coach: Steve Logan *Colors:* Purple & Gold
Nickname: Pirates *2001 Record:* 6-5

East Tennessee State Johnson City, TN

A.	31	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	
S.	7	Mars Hill	
S.	14	@GARDNER-WEBB	30-17
S.	21	Virginia Military	34-23
S.	28	@WESTERN CAROLINA	6-20
O.	5	Appalachian State	14-33
O.	12	@CITADEL	23-21
O.	19	Elon	
O.	26	Furman	6-31
N.	2	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	19-16
N.	9	Wofford	3-24
N.	16	@CHATTANOOGA	32-10

Coach: Paul Hamilton *Colors:* Navy Blue & Gold
Nickname: Buccaneers *2001 Record:* 6-5

Eastern Illinois Charleston, IL

A.	31	@HAWAII	
S.	14	@KANSAS STATE	
S.	21	Indiana State	44-14
S.	28	Illinois State	
O.	5	@TENNESSEE TECH	44-33
O.	12	Eastern Kentucky	21-17
O.	19	@SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	12-0
N.	2	@TENNESSEE STATE	52-49
N.	9	Tennessee-Martin	56-16
N.	16	Florida Atlantic	38-10
N.	23	@MURRAY STATE	37-6

Coach: Bob Spoo *Colors:* Blue & Gray
Nickname: Panthers *2001 Record:* 9-2

Eastern Kentucky Richmond, KY

A.	29	@OREGON STATE	
S.	7	Slippery Rock	
S.	14	@APPALACHIAN STATE	
S.	21	Florida Atlantic	
S.	28	Glenville State	60-7
O.	5	Tennessee-Martin	42-10
O.	12	@EASTERN ILLINOIS	17-21
O.	19	Murray State	21-13
O.	26	@TENNESSEE TECH	34-10
N.	2	@LIBERTY	30-7
N.	9	Southeast Missouri State	42-24
N.	23	@TENNESSEE STATE	13-10

Coach: Roy Kidd *Colors:* Maroon & White
Nickname: Colonels *2001 Record:* 8-2

Eastern Michigan Ypsilanti, MI

A.	31	@MICHIGAN STATE	
S.	7	Toledo	7-28
S.	14	Southeast Missouri State	16-12
S.	21	@MARYLAND	3-50
S.	28	Southern Illinois	
O.	5	Akron	62-65 (OT)
O.	12	@OHIO	
O.	19	@BALL STATE	14-35
N.	2	Central Michigan	30-35
N.	9	@WESTERN MICHIGAN	10-31
N.	16	Northern Illinois	17-40
N.	23	@BOWLING GREEN	

Coach: Jeff Woodruff *Colors:* Green & White
Nickname: Eagles *2001 Record:* 3-8

Eastern Washington Cheney, WA

A.	31	@ARIZONA STATE	
S.	7	Montana Tech	
S.	14	Western Oregon	
S.	21	@SOUTHERN UTAH	
O.	5	Idaho State	48-45
O.	12	@PORTLAND STATE	22-37
O.	19	Northern Arizona	33-42
O.	26	Sacramento State	42-35 (OT)
N.	2	@WEBER STATE	50-26
N.	9	@MONTANA STATE	38-48
N.	16	Montana+	26-29 (OT)

+ At Spokane, WA

Coach: Paul Wulff *Colors:* Red & White
Nickname: Eagles *2001 Record:* 7-4

Elon Elon College, NC

S.	7	Florida International	
S.	14	@FURMAN	7-46
S.	21	Johnson Smith	
S.	28	@NORTH CAROLINA A&T	7-23
O.	5	@NORTHWESTERN STATE	6-24
O.	12	@GARDNER-WEBB	27-14
O.	19	@EAST TENNESSEE STATE	
N.	2	Hofstra	21-42
N.	9	Liberty	
N.	16	@CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	39-16
N.	23	Wofford	

Coach: Al Seagraves *Colors:* Maroon & Gold
Nickname: Phoenix *2001 Record:* 2-9

Fairfield Fairfield, CT

A.	31	Fairmont State	13-20
S.	14	@LA SALLE	27-0
S.	21	@GEORGETOWN	
S.	28	Fordham	14-46
O.	5	@MARIST	27-6
O.	12	Iona	26-21
O.	19	@SIENA	42-13
O.	26	Canisius	63-44
N.	2	St. Peter's	7-17
N.	9	St. John's (NY)	
N.	16	@DUQUESNE	19-51

Coach: Kevin Kiesel *Colors:* Scarlet & White
Nickname: Stags *2001 Record:* 5-5

Florida Gainesville, FL

A.	31	UAB	
S.	7	Miami (FL)	
S.	14	Ohio	
S.	21	@TENNESSEE	32-34
S.	28	Kentucky	44-10
O.	5	@MISSISSIPPI	
O.	12	LSU	44-15
O.	19	Auburn	20-23
N.	2	GEORGIA+	24-10
N.	9	@VANDERBILT	71-13
N.	16	South Carolina	54-17
N.	30	@FLORIDA STATE	37-13

+ At Jacksonville, FL

Coach: Ron Zook *Colors:* Orange & Blue
Nickname: Gators *2001 Record:* 9-2

Florida A&M Tallahassee, FL

A.	31	@MIAMI (FL)	
S.	7	Morris Brown	
S.	14	@MORGAN STATE+	21-12
S.	21	@DELAWARE STATE	35-17
S.	28	Tennessee State	7-27
O.	5	South Carolina State	33-27
O.	12	Howard	53-20
O.	19	North Carolina A&T	23-55
O.	26	@NORFOLK STATE	47-9
N.	2	Hampton	47-35
N.	9	@TROY STATE#	
N.	23	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN$	31-21

+ At Cincinnati, OH
# At Mobile, AL
$ At Orlando, FL

Coach: Billy Joe *Colors:* Orange & Green
Nickname: Rattlers *2001 Record:* 7-4

Florida Atlantic Boca Raton, FL

A.	29	@SOUTH FLORIDA	
S.	7	Bethune-Cookman	31-28
S.	14	@JAMES MADISON	
S.	21	@EASTERN KENTUCKY	
O.	5	@NICHOLLS STATE	
O.	12	Youngstown State	
O.	26	@TROY STATE	
N.	2	@CONNECTICUT	
N.	9	Morris Brown	
N.	16	@EASTERN ILLINOIS	10-38
N.	23	Florida International	

Coach: Howard Schnellenberger *Colors:* Atlantic Blue & Gray
Nickname: Owls *2001 Record:* 4-6

Florida International Miami, FL

A.	29	St. Peter's	
S.	7	@ELON	
S.	14	Butler	
S.	21	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN+	
S.	28	Georgetown	
O.	12	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	
O.	19	Maine	
O.	26	Gardner-Webb	
N.	2	Jacksonville	
N.	9	Albany (NY)	
N.	23	@FLORIDA ATLANTIC	

+ At Fort Lauderdale, FL

Coach: Don Strock *Colors:* Blue & Gold
Nickname: Golden Panthers *2001 Record:* 0-0

Florida State Tallahassee, FL

A.	24	@IOWA STATE+	
A.	31	Virginia	43-7
S.	14	@MARYLAND	52-31
S.	21	Duke	55-13
S.	26	@LOUISVILLE	
O.	3	Clemson	41-27
O.	12	@MIAMI (FL)	27-49
O.	26	Notre Dame	
N.	2	@WAKE FOREST	48-24
N.	9	@GEORGIA TECH	28-17
N.	16	North Carolina	9-41
N.	23	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	28-34
N.	30	Florida	13-37

+ At Kansas City, MO

Coach: Bobby Bowden *Colors:* Garnet & Gold
Nickname: Seminoles *2001 Record:* 7-4

Fordham Bronx, NY

S.	7	St. Peter's	
S.	14	Colgate	9-21
S.	21	@COLUMBIA	41-10
S.	28	@FAIRFIELD	46-14
O.	5	@GEORGETOWN	48-13
O.	12	Brown	23-40
O.	26	Lafayette	45-24
N.	2	Lehigh	21-31
N.	9	@HOLY CROSS	24-21
N.	16	Towson	28-23
N.	23	@BUCKNELL	17-12

Coach: Dave Clawson *Colors:* Maroon & White
Nickname: Rams *2001 Record:* 7-4

Fresno State Fresno, CA

A.	23	@WISCONSIN	32-20
A.	29	San Diego State	
S.	7	@OREGON	
S.	21	@OREGON STATE	44-24
S.	28	@RICE	52-24
O.	4	Colorado State	25-22 (OT)
O.	12	Southern Methodist	38-13
O.	19	@BOISE STATE	30-35
O.	25	Hawaii	34-38
N.	2	@LOUISIANA TECH	38-28
N.	9	Tulsa	37-18
N.	16	Nevada	61-14
N.	23	@SAN JOSE STATE	40-21

Coach: Pat Hill *Colors:* Cardinal & Blue
Nickname: Bulldogs *2001 Record:* 11-2

Furman Greenville, SC

S.	7	@VANDERBILT	
S.	14	Elon	46-7
S.	21	@RICHMOND	
S.	28	@VIRGINIA MILITARY	65-7
O.	5	Western Carolina	31-13
O.	12	@APPALACHIAN STATE	28-22
O.	19	Citadel	30-7
O.	26	@EAST TENNESSEE STATE	31-6
N.	9	Georgia Southern	24-17
N.	16	@WOFFORD	45-14
N.	23	Chattanooga	42-10

Coach: Bobby Lamb *Colors:* Purple & White
Nickname: Paladins *2001 Record:* 12-2

Gardner-Webb Boiling Springs, NC

A.	31	Morgan State	
S.	7	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	
S.	14	East Tennessee State	17-30
S.	21	@CHATTANOOGA	
O.	5	@LIBERTY	29-25
O.	12	Elon	14-27
O.	26	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
N.	2	Tennessee-Martin	45-20
N.	9	@CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	
N.	16	Savannah State	34-14

Coach: Steve Patton *Colors:* Scarlet, White & Black
Nickname: Runnin' Bulldogs *2001 Record:* 6-4

Georgetown Washington, DC

S.	7	@LEHIGH	14-41
S.	14	Holy Cross	7-33
S.	21	Fairfield	
S.	28	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
O.	5	Fordham	13-48
O.	12	@DAVIDSON	26-24
O.	19	@LAFAYETTE	17-37
O.	26	Bucknell	0-34
N.	2	Marist	35-38 (OT)
N.	16	@COLGATE	
N.	23	@TOWSON	9-27

Coach: Bob Benson *Colors:* Blue & Gray
Nickname: Hoyas *2001 Record:* 3-7

Georgia Athens, GA

A.	31	Clemson	
S.	14	@SOUTH CAROLINA	9-14
S.	21	Northwestern State	
S.	28	New Mexico State	
O.	5	@ALABAMA	
O.	12	Tennessee	26-24
O.	19	Vanderbilt	30-14
O.	26	@KENTUCKY	43-29
N.	2	Florida+	10-24
N.	9	Mississippi	35-15
N.	16	@AUBURN	17-24
N.	30	Georgia Tech	31-17

+ At Jacksonville, FL

Coach: Mark Richt *Colors:* Red & Black
Nickname: Bulldogs *2001 Record:* 8-3

Georgia Southern Statesboro, GA

A. 29	@DELAWARE	38-7
S. 7	Gardner-Webb	
S. 21	Wofford	48-10
S. 28	@CHATTANOOGA	70-7
O. 5	Virginia Military	31-14
O. 12	@WESTERN CAROLINA	50-14
O. 19	Appalachian State	38-24
O. 26	@CITADEL	14-6
N. 2	East Tennessee State	16-19
N. 9	@FURMAN	17-24
N. 16	Jacksonville State	

Coach: *Mike Sewak* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *12-2*

Georgia Tech Atlanta, GA

A. 31	Vanderbilt	
S. 7	@CONNECTICUT	
S. 14	@CLEMSON	44-47 (OT)
S. 21	Brigham Young	
S. 28	@NORTH CAROLINA	28-21
O. 5	Wake Forest	38-33
O. 17	@MARYLAND	17-20 (OT)
O. 26	Virginia	38-39
N. 2	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	27-17
N. 9	Florida State	17-28
N. 16	Duke	37-10
N. 30	@GEORGIA	17-31

Coach: *Chan Gailey* ***Colors:*** *Gold & White*
Nickname: *Yellow Jackets* ***2001 Record:*** *7-5*

Grambling Grambling, LA

A. 31	@MCNEESE STATE	
S. 7	Alcorn State	37-22
S. 14	@ALABAMA A&M	30-7
S. 21	Tennessee State+	
O. 5	@PRAIRIE VIEW A&M#	40-6
O. 19	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	60-7
O. 26	Jackson State	30-16
N. 2	@TEXAS SOUTHERN	43-3
N. 9	Alabama State	38-31
N. 16	@MORRIS BROWN	

+ At Las Vegas, NV
# At Dallas, TX

Coach: *Doug Williams* ***Colors:*** *Black & Gold*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Hampton Hampton, VA

A. 31	@JAMES MADISON	
S. 7	SMS	
S. 14	Howard	27-20
S. 21	Alcorn State+	
O. 5	@DELAWARE STATE	31-20
O. 12	Bowie State	
O. 19	Norfolk State	20-28
O. 26	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	28-17
N. 2	@FLORIDA A&M	35-47
N. 9	Bethune-Cookman	44-41
N. 16	North Carolina A&T	23-7
N. 23	@MORGAN STATE	35-20

+ At East Rutherford, NJ

Coach: *Joe Taylor* ***Colors:*** *Royal Blue & White*
Nickname: *Pirates* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Harvard Boston, MA

S. 21	Holy Cross	
S. 28	@BROWN	27-20
O. 5	@LEHIGH	
O. 12	Cornell	26-6
O. 19	Northeastern	35-20
O. 26	@PRINCETON	28-26
N. 2	@DARTMOUTH	31-21
N. 9	Columbia	45-33
N. 16	@PENNSYLVANIA	28-21
N. 23	Yale	35-23

Coach: *Tim Murphy* ***Colors:*** *Crimson*
Nickname: *Crimson* ***2001 Record:*** *9-0*

Hawaii Honolulu, HI

A. 31	Eastern Illinois	
S. 6	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	72-45
S. 21	@UTEP	66-7
S. 28	Southern Methodist	38-31 (OT)
O. 5	@BOISE STATE	21-28
O. 12	Nevada	20-28
O. 19	Tulsa	36-15
O. 25	@FRESNO STATE	38-34
N. 2	San Jose State	34-10
N. 16	@RICE	24-27
N. 23	Cincinnati	
N. 30	Washington State	
D. 7	San Diego State	

Coach: *June Jones* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Rainbow Warriors* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Hofstra Hempstead, NY

A. 29	Montana	
S. 7	Rhode Island	26-35
S. 14	@NEW HAMPSHIRE	35-20
S. 21	James Madison	
S. 28	@NORTHEASTERN	45-21
O. 5	@VILLANOVA	34-54
O. 12	William & Mary	34-28
O. 26	@MAINE	51-44
N. 2	@ELON	42-21
N. 9	Richmond	35-21
N. 16	@MASSACHUSETTS	36-6
N. 23	Liberty	40-3

Coach: *Joe Gardi* ***Colors:*** *Blue, White & Gold*
Nickname: *Pride* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Holy Cross Worcester, MA

S. 7	@ARMY	
S. 14	@GEORGETOWN	33-7
S. 21	@HARVARD	
S. 28	Towson	17-9
O. 5	@YALE	22-23
O. 12	St. Mary's (CA)	
O. 19	@DARTMOUTH	49-17
O. 26	Lehigh	14-47
N. 2	Bucknell	14-21
N. 9	Fordham	21-24
N. 16	@LAFAYETTE	63-53
N. 23	@COLGATE	7-35

Coach: *Dan Allen* ***Colors:*** *Royal Purple & White*
Nickname: *Crusaders* ***2001 Record:*** *4-6*

Houston Houston, TX

A. 31	@RICE	14-21
S. 7	Tulane	
S. 14	Louisiana-Lafayette	
S. 21	@TEXAS	26-53
O. 5	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	17-34
O. 12	@UAB	21-43
O. 19	Army	14-28
N. 2	@MEMPHIS	33-52
N. 9	East Carolina	
N. 16	@CINCINNATI	28-29
N. 23	South Florida	6-45
N. 30	Louisville	10-34

Coach: *Dana Dimel* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & White*
Nickname: *Cougars* ***2001 Record:*** *0-11*

Howard Washington, DC

S. 7	Texas Southern	
S. 14	@HAMPTON	20-27
S. 21	Maine	
S. 28	@MORRIS BROWN	
O. 12	@FLORIDA A&M	20-53
O. 19	Morgan State	41-15
O. 26	North Carolina A&T	30-76
N. 2	Norfolk State	0-7 (OT)
N. 9	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	33-37
N. 16	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN	18-29
N. 23	Delaware State	31-43

Coach: *Rayford T. Petty* ***Colors:*** *Navy Blue & White*
Nickname: *Bison* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Idaho Moscow, ID

A. 31	@BOISE STATE	13-45
S. 7	@WASHINGTON STATE	7-36
S. 14	@OREGON	
S. 21	San Diego State	
S. 28	@WASHINGTON	3-53
O. 5	Montana	27-33 (OT)
O. 12	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	42-38
O. 26	Middle Tennessee State	58-70
N. 2	@LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	37-54
N. 9	@NORTH TEXAS	27-50
N. 16	Arkansas State	31-34
N. 23	New Mexico State	39-46

Coach: *Tom Cable* ***Colors:*** *Silver & Gold*
Nickname: *Vandals* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Idaho State Pocatello, ID

A. 29	Montana-Western	
S. 14	@UTAH STATE	27-28
S. 21	@MONTANA	28-32
S. 28	Sacramento State	27-33
O. 5	@EASTERN WASHINGTON	45-48
O. 12	Montana State	13-52
O. 26	Weber State	17-42
N. 2	@PORTLAND STATE	23-17
N. 9	Northern Arizona	26-51
N. 16	Cal Poly	
N. 23	@SOUTHERN UTAH	30-23

Coach: *Larry Lewis* ***Colors:*** *Black & Orange*
Nickname: *Bengals* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Illinois Champaign, IL

A. 31	Missouri@	
S. 7	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	
S. 14	Arkansas State	
S. 21	San Jose State	
S. 28	Michigan	20-45
O. 5	@MINNESOTA	25-14
O. 12	Purdue	38-13
O. 26	Indiana	35-14
N. 2	@PENN STATE	33-28
N. 9	@WISCONSIN	42-35
N. 16	Ohio State	34-22
N. 23	@NORTHWESTERN	34-28

@ At St. Louis, MO

Coach: *Ron Turner* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Blue*
Nickname: *Fighting Illini* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Illinois State Normal, IL

A. 31	@PURDUE	
S. 7	Quincy	
S. 21	Murray State	17-32
S. 28	@EASTERN ILLINOIS	
O. 5	SMS	31-48
O. 12	@WESTERN ILLINOIS	23-33
O. 19	Southern Illinois	17-23
O. 26	@NORTHERN IOWA	42-14
N. 2	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	14-58
N. 9	Youngstown State	30-44
N. 16	@INDIANA STATE	31-17

Coach: *Denver Johnson* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Redbirds* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Indiana Bloomington, IN

A. 31	William & Mary	
S. 7	@UTAH	26-28
S. 14	@KENTUCKY	26-15
S. 21	Central Michigan	
S. 28	@OHIO STATE	14-27
O. 12	Wisconsin	63-32
O. 19	Iowa	28-42
O. 26	@ILLINOIS	14-35
N. 2	@NORTHWESTERN	56-21
N. 9	Michigan State	37-28
N. 16	Penn State	14-28
N. 23	@PURDUE	13-7

Coach: *Gary DiNardo* ***Colors:*** *Cream & Crimson*
Nickname: *Hoosiers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Indiana State Terre Haute, IN

A. 29	@WESTERN MICHIGAN	
S. 7	Cumberland University	
S. 14	@BALL STATE	
S. 21	@EASTERN ILLINOIS	14-44
S. 28	Murray State	
O. 5	@YOUNGSTOWN STATE	21-35
O. 12	SMS	25-19
O. 19	@WESTERN ILLINOIS	15-52
O. 26	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	9-22
N. 2	Northern Iowa	13-34
N. 9	@SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	20-14
N. 16	Illinois State	17-31

Coach: *Tim McGuire* ***Colors:*** *Royal Blue & White*
Nickname: *Sycamores* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Iona New Rochelle, NY

S. 7	Siena	21-19
S. 14	@WAGNER	
S. 21	@ST. JOHN'S (NY)	30-16
S. 28	Montclair State	20-46
O. 5	Canisius	27-24
O. 12	@FAIRFIELD	21-26
O. 19	La Salle	27-30
O. 26	@MARIST	18-15
N. 2	@DUQUESNE	
N. 9	St. Peter's	7-31
N. 16	@SACRED HEART	7-49

Coach: *Fred Mariani* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Gaels* ***2001 Record:*** *4-5*

Iowa Iowa City, IA

A. 31	Akron	
S. 7	@MIAMI (OH)	44-19
S. 14	Iowa State	14-17
S. 21	Utah State	
S. 28	@PENN STATE	24-18
O. 5	Purdue	14-23
O. 12	Michigan State	28-31
O. 19	@INDIANA	42-28
O. 26	@MICHIGAN	26-32
N. 2	Wisconsin	28-34
N. 9	Northwestern	59-16
N. 16	@MINNESOTA	42-24

Coach: *Kirk Ferentz* ***Colors:*** *Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Hawkeyes* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Iowa State Ames, IA

A. 24	Florida State@	
A. 31	Kansas	49-7
S. 7	Tennessee Tech	
S. 14	@IOWA	17-14
S. 21	Troy State	
S. 28	Nebraska	14-48
O. 12	Texas Tech	
O. 19	@OKLAHOMA	
O. 26	@TEXAS	
N. 2	Missouri	20-14
N. 9	@KANSAS STATE	3-42
N. 16	@COLORADO	27-40
N. 23	Connecticut	

@ At Kansas City, MO

Coach: *Dan McCarney* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Gold*
Nickname: *Cyclones* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Jackson State Jackson, MS

A. 31	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	
S. 7	@NORTH CAROLINA A&T	35-42
S. 14	@TENNESSEE STATE	33-64
S. 21	@SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	24-21
S. 28	Mississippi Valley State	66-36
O. 12	@ALABAMA STATE+	58-61
O. 26	@GRAMBLING STATE	16-30
N. 2	@ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	14-9
N. 9	Alabama A&M	26-14
N. 16	Prairie View A&M	38-20
N. 23	Alcorn State	52-28

+ At Mobile, AL

Coach: *Robert Hughes* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Jacksonville Jacksonville, FL

S. 7	Lenoir-Rhyne	20-16
S. 14	@DAVIDSON	45-3
S. 21	Presbyterian	
S. 28	Austin Peay	38-7
O. 5	@SAN DIEGO	
O. 19	@MOREHEAD STATE	39-27
O. 26	@CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	7-28
N. 2	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
N. 9	Edward Waters	
N. 16	Wagner	

Coach: *Steve Gilbert* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Dolphins* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Jacksonville State Jacksonville, AL

A. 31	Alabama A&M	
S. 14	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	
S. 21	@NICHOLLS STATE	34-15
S. 28	@TENNESSEE TECH	27-35
O. 5	Samford	39-7
O. 12	Sam Houston State	30-55
O. 19	@MCNEESE STATE	21-31
O. 26	Stephen F. Austin	37-44 (OT)
N. 2	@SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE	38-17
N. 9	Northwestern State	17-42
N. 16	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	

Coach: *Jack Crowe* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Gamecocks* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

James Madison Harrisonburg, VA

A. 31	Hampton	
S. 7	New Hampshire	19-26
S. 14	Florida Atlantic	
S. 21	@HOFSTRA	
S. 28	Villanova	44-45 (OT)
O. 5	Maine	3-13
O. 12	@DELAWARE	3-28
O. 19	@RICHMOND	17-20
O. 26	Massachusetts	20-43
N. 2	@RHODE ISLAND	12-16
N. 16	William & Mary	10-17
N. 23	@NORTHEASTERN	17-24

Coach: *Mickey Matthews* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Dukes* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Kansas Lawrence, KS

A. 31	@IOWA STATE	7-49
S. 7	@UNLV	
S. 14	SMS	24-10
S. 21	Bowling Green	
S. 28	@TULSA	
O. 5	@BAYLOR	
O. 12	Colorado	16-27
O. 19	Texas A&M	
O. 26	@MISSOURI	34-38
N. 2	Kansas State	6-40
N. 9	@NEBRASKA	7-51
N. 16	Oklahoma State	

Coach: *Mark Mangino* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & Blue*
Nickname: *Jayhawks* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Kansas State Manhattan, KS

A. 31	Western Kentucky	
S. 7	Louisiana-Monroe	
S. 14	Eastern Illinois	
S. 21	USC	10-6
O. 5	@COLORADO	6-16
O. 12	Oklahoma State	
O. 19	Texas	
O. 26	@BAYLOR	
N. 2	@KANSAS	40-6
N. 9	Iowa State	42-3
N. 16	Nebraska	21-31
N. 23	@MISSOURI	24-3

Coach: *Bill Snyder* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Kent State Kent, OH

A. 29	New Hampshire	
S. 7	@OHIO STATE	
S. 14	Cal Poly	
S. 21	@MIAMI (OH)	24-20
S. 28	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	44-34
O. 5	Marshall	21-42
O. 19	Ohio	24-14
O. 26	@BUFFALO	35-13
N. 2	Bowling Green	7-24
N. 9	@CONNECTICUT	
N. 16	@UCF	
N. 23	Akron	10-14

Coach: *Dean Pees* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Flashes* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Kentucky Lexington, KY

S. 1	@LOUISVILLE	10-36
S. 7	UTEP	
S. 14	Indiana	15-26
S. 21	Middle Tennessee State	
S. 28	@FLORIDA	10-44
O. 12	South Carolina	6-42
O. 19	@ARKANSAS	
O. 26	Georgia	29-43
N. 2	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	14-17
N. 9	LSU	25-29
N. 16	Vanderbilt	56-30
N. 30	@TENNESSEE	35-38

Coach: *Guy Morriss* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

La Salle Philadelphia, PA

S. 7	Wagner	
S. 14	Fairfield	0-27
S. 21	@ST. PETER'S	7-23
S. 28	Siena	6-20
O. 5	@CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY	20-12
O. 12	@CANISIUS	21-14
O. 19	@IONA	30-27
O. 26	Duquesne	0-34
N. 2	St. Francis (PA)	42-37
N. 9	Marist	
N. 16	@ST. JOHN'S (NY)	28-12

Coach: *Archie Stalcup* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Explorers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-4*

Lafayette Easton, PA

S. 7	Monmouth (NJ)	
S. 14	Towson	13-16 (OT)
S. 21	Pennsylvania	0-37
S. 28	@PRINCETON	
O. 5	@DUQUESNE	
O. 12	@COLUMBIA	31-14
O. 19	Georgetown	37-17
O. 26	@FORDHAM	24-45
N. 2	@COLGATE	16-20
N. 9	@BUCKNELL	16-17
N. 16	Holy Cross	53-63
N. 23	Lehigh	6-41

Coach: *Frank Tavani* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Leopards* ***2001 Record:*** *2-8*

Lehigh Bethlehem, PA

A. 29	@BUFFALO	
S. 7	Georgetown	41-14
S. 21	Princeton	34-10
S. 28	@PENNSYLVANIA	
O. 5	Harvard	
O. 12	@TOWSON	47-12
O. 19	Yale	
O. 26	@HOLY CROSS	47-14
N. 2	@FORDHAM	31-21
N. 9	Colgate	25-22
N. 16	Bucknell	21-14
N. 23	@LAFAYETTE	41-6

Coach: *Pete Lembo* ***Colors:*** *Brown & White*
Nickname: *Mountain Hawks* ***2001 Record:*** *11-1*

Liberty Lynchburg, VA

A. 31	Western Carolina	0-63
S. 7	West Liberty State	
S. 21	Appalachian State	26-46
S. 28	@UCF	0-63
O. 5	Gardner-Webb	25-29
O. 12	@AKRON	
O. 19	Charleston Southern	45-31
O. 26	@VIRGINIA MILITARY	
N. 2	Eastern Kentucky	7-30
N. 9	@ELON	
N. 23	@HOFSTRA	3-40

Coach: *Ken Karcher* ***Colors:*** *Red, White & Blue*
Nickname: *Flames* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Louisiana Tech Ruston, LA

A. 31	Oklahoma State	23-30
S. 7	@CLEMSON	
S. 14	Tulsa	19-7
S. 21	@PENN STATE	
S. 28	@TEXAS A&M	
O. 5	@RICE	41-38 (OT)
O. 19	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	36-6
O. 26	Nevada	45-42
N. 2	Fresno State	28-38
N. 9	@SAN JOSE STATE	41-20
N. 16	@BOISE STATE	48-42
N. 23	UTEP	53-30

Coach: *Jack Bicknell III* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Louisiana-Lafayette Lafayette, LA

A. 31	@TEXAS A&M	
S. 7	Minnesota	14-44
S. 14	@HOUSTON	
S. 21	UAB	
O. 5	@LSU	
O. 12	@NEW MEXICO STATE	46-49
O. 19	@MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	9-26
O. 26	North Texas	17-42
N. 2	Idaho	54-37
N. 9	Arkansas State	20-26
N. 16	@ARKANSAS	
N. 23	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	17-12

Coach: *Rickey Bustle* ***Colors:*** *Vermillion & White*
Nickname: *Ragin' Cajuns* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Louisiana-Monroe Monroe, LA

A. 31	@MISSISSIPPI	
S. 7	@KANSAS STATE	
S. 14	McNeese State	
S. 21	Arkansas State	16-7
O. 5	Tulane	
O. 12	Idaho	38-42
O. 19	@NEW MEXICO STATE	0-31
O. 26	Utah State	
N. 2	@NORTH TEXAS	19-17
N. 9	@AUBURN	
N. 16	@MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	20-38
N. 23	Louisiana-Lafayette	12-17

Coach: *Bobby Keasler* ***Colors:*** *Red & Gold*
Nickname: *Indians* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Louisville Louisville, KY

S. 1	Kentucky	36-10
S. 7	@DUKE	
S. 14	@COLORADO STATE	7-2
S. 21	@ARMY	
S. 26	Florida State	
O. 8	@MEMPHIS	38-21
O. 19	Texas Christian	22-37
O. 26	East Carolina	39-34
N. 9	Cincinnati	28-13
N. 14	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	24-14
N. 23	UAB	
N. 30	@HOUSTON	34-10

Coach: *John L. Smith* ***Colors:*** *Red, White & Black*
Nickname: *Cardinals* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

LSU Baton Rouge, LA

S. 1	@VIRGINIA TECH	
S. 7	Citadel	
S. 14	Miami (OH)	
S. 28	Mississippi State	42-0
O. 5	Louisiana-Lafayette	
O. 12	@FLORIDA	15-44
O. 19	South Carolina	
O. 26	@AUBURN	27-14
N. 9	@KENTUCKY	29-25
N. 16	Alabama	35-21
N. 23	Mississippi	24-35
N. 29	@ARKANSAS	41-38

Coach: *Nick Saban* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Maine Orono, ME

A. 31	Central Connecticut State	
S. 7	William & Mary	20-42
S. 14	@VILLANOVA	44-40
S. 21	@HOWARD	
S. 28	Rhode Island	26-14
O. 5	@JAMES MADISON	13-3
O. 12	@MASSACHUSETTS	37-7
O. 19	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
O. 26	Hofstra	44-51
N. 9	Delaware	
N. 16	@RICHMOND	14-3
N. 23	New Hampshire	57-24

Coach: *Jack Cosgrove* ***Colors:*** *White & Blue*
Nickname: *Black Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Marist Poughkeepsie, NY

S. 14	Canisius	24-20
S. 21	@DUQUESNE	10-21
S. 28	Wagner	
O. 5	Fairfield	6-27
O. 12	St. John's (NY)	
O. 19	@ST. PETER'S	7-13
O. 26	Iona	15-18
N. 2	@GEORGETOWN	38-35 (OT)
N. 9	@LA SALLE	
N. 16	@SIENA	14-7

Coach: *Jim Parady* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Red Foxes* ***2001 Record:*** *3-6*

Marshall Huntington, WV

A. 31	Appalachian State	
S. 12	@VIRGINIA TECH	
S. 20	UCF	
O. 5	@KENT STATE	42-21
O. 12	Buffalo	34-14
O. 19	Troy State	
O. 26	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	42-21
N. 2	@AKRON	50-33
N. 12	Miami (OH)	27-21
N. 23	@OHIO	42-18
N. 30	Ball State	

Coach: *Bob Pruett* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Thundering Herd* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

Maryland College Park, MD

A. 31	Notre Dame+	
S. 7	Akron	
S. 14	Florida State	31-52
S. 21	Eastern Michigan	50-3
S. 28	Wofford	
O. 5	@WEST VIRGINIA	32-20
O. 17	Georgia Tech	20-17 (OT)
O. 26	@DUKE	59-17
N. 2	@NORTH CAROLINA	23-7
N. 9	North Carolina State	23-19
N. 16	@CLEMSON	37-20
N. 23	@VIRGINIA	41-21
N. 30	Wake Forest	27-20

+ At East Rutherford, NJ

Coach: *Ralph Friedgen* ***Colors:*** *Black & Gold, Red & White*
Nickname: *Terrapins* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Massachusetts Amherst, MA

S. 7	Central Connecticut State	
S. 14	American International	
S. 21	@NORTHEASTERN	17-10
S. 28	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	
O. 5	@RICHMOND	7-35
O. 12	Maine	7-37
O. 19	Villanova	13-47
O. 26	@JAMES MADISON	43-20
N. 2	Delaware	7-35
N. 9	@NEW HAMPSHIRE	24-35
N. 16	Hofstra	6-36
N. 23	@RHODE ISLAND	24-7

Coach: *Mark Whipple* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Minutemen* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

McNeese State Lake Charles, LA

A. 31	Grambling State	
S. 7	@YOUNGSTOWN STATE	
S. 14	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	
S. 28	Western Kentucky	0-21
O. 5	@NEBRASKA	
O. 19	Jacksonville State	31-21
O. 26	@SAM HOUSTON STATE	35-23
N. 2	@STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	14-26
N. 9	Southwest Texas State	21-3
N. 16	@NORTHWESTERN STATE	17-10
N. 23	Nicholls State	34-27

Coach: *Tommy Tate* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Cowboys* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Memphis Memphis, TN

A. 31	Murray State	
S. 7	@MISSISSIPPI	
S. 14	@SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	22-17
S. 21	Tulane	
S. 28	@UAB	14-17
O. 8	Louisville	21-38
O. 19	Mississippi State	10-30
O. 26	@CINCINNATI	34-36
N. 2	Houston	52-33
N. 9	@SOUTH FLORIDA	17-9
N. 23	Army	42-10
N. 30	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	

Coach: *Tommy West* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gray*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Miami (FL) Coral Gables, FL

A. 31	Florida A&M	
S. 7	@FLORIDA	
S. 14	@TEMPLE	38-0
S. 21	Boston College	18-7
O. 5	Connecticut	
O. 12	Florida State	49-27
O. 26	@WEST VIRGINIA	45-3
N. 2	@RUTGERS	61-0
N. 9	@TENNESSEE	
N. 21	Pittsburgh	43-21
N. 30	@SYRACUSE	59-0
D. 7	Virginia Tech	26-24

Coach: *Larry Coker* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Green*
Nickname: *Hurricanes* ***2001 Record:*** *11-0*

Miami (OH) Oxford, OH

A. 31	@NORTH CAROLINA	
S. 7	Iowa	19-44
S. 14	@LSU	
S. 21	Kent State	20-24
S. 28	@AKRON	30-27
O. 5	@CINCINNATI	21-14
O. 12	Northern Illinois	
O. 19	@BUFFALO	31-14
O. 26	@TOLEDO	
N. 2	Ohio	36-24
N. 12	@MARSHALL	21-27
N. 23	UCF	

Coach: *Terry Hoeppner* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *RedHawks* ***2001 Record:*** *7-5*

Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

A. 31	Washington	18-23
S. 7	Western Michigan	38-21
S. 14	@NOTRE DAME	
S. 21	Utah	
S. 28	@ILLINOIS	45-20
O. 12	Penn State	20-0
O. 19	@PURDUE	24-10
O. 26	Iowa	32-26
N. 2	Michigan State	24-26
N. 9	@MINNESOTA	31-10
N. 16	Wisconsin	20-17
N. 23	@OHIO STATE	20-26

Coach: *Lloyd Carr* ***Colors:*** *Maize & Blue*
Nickname: *Wolverines* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Michigan State East Lansing, MI

A. 31	Eastern Michigan	
S. 7	Rice	
S. 14	California	
S. 21	Notre Dame	17-10
S. 28	Northwestern	26-27
O. 12	@IOWA	31-28
O. 19	Minnesota	19-28
O. 26	Wisconsin	42-28
N. 2	@MICHIGAN	26-24
N. 9	@INDIANA	28-37
N. 16	Purdue	14-24
N. 23	@PENN STATE	37-42

Coach: *Bobby Williams* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Spartans* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Middle Tennessee Murfreesboro, TN

A. 31	@ALABAMA	
S. 7	@TENNESSEE	
S. 21	@KENTUCKY	
S. 28	Southeast Missouri State	
O. 5	@ARKANSAS STATE	54-6
O. 12	@VANDERBILT	37-28
O. 19	Louisiana-Lafayette	26-9
O. 26	@IDAHO	70-58
N. 2	@NEW MEXICO STATE	39-35
N. 16	Louisiana-Monroe	38-20
N. 23	North Texas	21-24
N. 30	Utah State	

Coach: *Andy McCollum* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Blue Raiders* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Minnesota Minneapolis, MN

A. 31	Southwest Texas State	
S. 7	@LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	44-14
S. 14	Toledo	7-38
S. 21	Buffalo	
S. 28	@PURDUE	28-35 (OT)
O. 5	Illinois	14-25
O. 12	Northwestern	17-23
O. 19	@MICHIGAN STATE	28-19
N. 2	@OHIO STATE	28-31
N. 9	Michigan	10-31
N. 16	Iowa	24-42
N. 23	@WISCONSIN	42-31

Coach: *Glen Mason* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Gophers* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Mississippi University, MS

A. 31	Louisiana-Monroe	
S. 7	Memphis	
S. 14	@TEXAS TECH	
S. 21	Vanderbilt	38-27
O. 5	Florida	
O. 12	Arkansas State	35-17
O. 19	@ALABAMA	27-24
O. 26	@ARKANSAS	56-58 (OT)
N. 2	Auburn	21-27
N. 9	@GEORGIA	15-35
N. 23	@LSU	35-24
N. 28	Mississippi State	28-36

Coach: *David Cutcliffe* ***Colors:*** *Red & Navy Blue*
Nickname: *Rebels* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Mississippi State Mississippi State, MS

A. 31	@OREGON	
S. 14	Jacksonville State	
S. 21	Auburn	14-16
S. 28	@LSU	0-42
O. 5	@SOUTH CAROLINA	14-16
O. 12	Troy State	9-21
O. 19	@MEMPHIS	30-10
N. 2	Kentucky	17-14
N. 9	@ALABAMA	17-24
N. 16	Tennessee	
N. 23	Arkansas	21-24
N. 28	@MISSISSIPPI	36-28

Coach: *Jackie Sherrill* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Mississippi Valley State Itta Bena, MS

S. 7	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	9-19
S. 14	Delta State	3-25
S. 21	@SAM HOUSTON STATE	13-68
S. 28	@JACKSON STATE	36-66
O. 5	Paul Quinn	
O. 12	@SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	0-49
O. 19	@ALABAMA A&M	22-40
O. 26	@TEXAS SOUTHERN	21-38
N. 2	Prairie View A&M	17-34
N. 9	Alcorn State	28-35
N. 16	@ALABAMA STATE	24-57

Coach: *Willie Totten* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Delta Devils* ***2001 Record:*** *0-11*

Missouri Columbia, MO

A. 31	@ILLINOIS+	
S. 7	Ball State	
S. 14	@BOWLING GREEN	13-20
S. 28	Troy State	
O. 5	Oklahoma	
O. 12	@NEBRASKA	3-36
O. 19	@TEXAS TECH	
O. 26	Kansas	38-34
N. 2	@IOWA STATE	14-20
N. 9	Colorado	24-38
N. 16	@TEXAS A&M	
N. 23	Kansas State	3-24

+ At St. Louis, MO

Coach: *Gary Pinkel* ***Colors:*** *Old Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Monmouth West Long Branch, NJ

S. 7	@LAFAYETTE	
S. 14	Sacred Heart	14-44
S. 21	@MORGAN STATE	
S. 28	@ROBERT MORRIS	
O. 12	Stony Brook	33-14
O. 19	Central Connecticut State	20-14
O. 26	@WAGNER	23-15
N. 2	Towson	24-17
N. 9	St. Francis (PA)	28-0
N. 16	@ALBANY (NY)	10-19

Coach: *Kevin Callahan* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Hawks* ***2001 Record:*** *7-3*

Montana Missoula, MT

A. 29	@HOFSTRA	
S. 7	Albany (NY)	
S. 14	Northern Colorado	
S. 21	Idaho State	32-28
O. 5	@IDAHO	33-27 (OT)
O. 12	@WEBER STATE	38-23
O. 19	Southern Utah	
O. 26	@PORTLAND STATE	33-13
N. 2	Northern Arizona	38-27
N. 9	Sacramento State	42-7
N. 16	@EASTERN WASHINGTON+	29-26 (OT)
N. 23	Montana State	38-27

+ At Spokane, WA

Coach: *Joe Glenn* ***Colors:*** *Copper, Silver & Gold*
Nickname: *Grizzlies* ***2001 Record:*** *14-1*

Montana State Bozeman, MT

A. 31	St. Mary's (CA)	
S. 7	@STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	
S. 14	Adams State	
S. 21	@WASHINGTON STATE	28-53
O. 5	Central Washington	
O. 12	@IDAHO STATE	52-13
O. 19	Weber State	32-17
O. 26	@NORTHERN ARIZONA	28-35
N. 2	@SACRAMENTO STATE	20-0
N. 9	Eastern Washington	48-38
N. 16	Portland State	21-33
N. 23	@MONTANA	27-38

Coach: *Mike Kramer* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Bobcats* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Morehead State Morehead, KY

A. 31	Cumberland University	
S. 7	@VALPARAISO	24-10
S. 14	Kentucky State	14-21
S. 21	@TUSCULUM	27-34
S. 28	Butler	27-29
O. 5	@DAVIDSON	28-17
O. 12	St. Joseph's (IN)	
O. 19	Jacksonville	27-39
O. 26	@AUSTIN PEAY	29-24
N. 2	Tiffin	35-14
N. 9	@DAYTON	22-42

Coach: *Matt Ballard* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & White*
Nickname: *Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Morgan State Baltimore, MD

A. 31	@GARDNER-WEBB	
S. 5	@TOWSON	17-20 (OT)
S. 14	Florida A&M@	12-21
S. 21	Monmouth (NJ)	
O. 5	Bethune-Cookman	24-35
O. 12	@NORTH CAROLINA A&T	52-42
O. 19	@HOWARD	15-41
O. 26	Delaware State	12-38
N. 2	Morris Brown	20-22
N. 9	@NORFOLK STATE	27-33
N. 16	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	26-29
N. 23	Hampton	20-35

@ At Cincinnati, OH

Coach: *Donald Hill-Eley* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Orange*
Nickname: *Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Morris Brown Atlanta, GA

A. 31	Delaware State	
S. 7	@FLORIDA A&M	
S. 14	Bethune-Cookman	0-30
S. 21	@CLARK ATLANTA	42-38
S. 28	Howard	
O. 5	@ALABAMA STATE	
O. 19	Savannah State	14-17
O. 26	Samford	
N. 2	@MORGAN STATE	22-20
N. 9	@FLORIDA ATLANTIC	
N. 16	Grambling State	
N. 23	@NORFOLK STATE	32-14

Coach: *Solomon Brannan* ***Colors:*** *Purple, Black & White*
Nickname: *Wolverines* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Murray State Murray, KY

A. 31	@MEMPHIS	
S. 14	Southern Illinois	24-20
S. 21	@ILLINOIS STATE	32-17
S. 28	@INDIANA STATE	
O. 12	Tennessee Tech	12-15
O. 19	@EASTERN KENTUCKY	13-21
O. 26	Southeast Missouri State	45-35
N. 2	Samford	
N. 9	Tennessee State	25-38
N. 16	@TENNESSEE-MARTIN	35-17
N. 23	Eastern Illinois	6-37

Coach: *Joe Pannunzio* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Racers* ***2001 Record:*** *4-6*

Navy Annapolis, MD

A. 31	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	
S. 7	North Carolina State	
S. 14	Rice	13-21
S. 21	Northwestern	
S. 28	Duke	
O. 5	@AIR FORCE	18-24
O. 19	@BOSTON COLLEGE	21-38
O. 26	@TULANE	28-42
N. 9	Notre Dame	16-34
N. 16	Connecticut	
N. 23	@WAKE FOREST	
D. 7	Army+	17-26

+ At East Rutherford, NY

Coach: *Paul Johnson* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Midshipmen* ***2001 Record:*** *0-10*

Nebraska Lincoln, NE

A. 24	Arizona State	
A. 31	Troy State	42-14
S. 7	Utah State	
S. 14	@PENN STATE	
S. 28	@IOWA STATE	48-14
O. 5	McNeese State	
O. 12	Missouri	36-3
O. 19	@OKLAHOMA STATE	
O. 26	@TEXAS A&M	
N. 2	Texas	
N. 9	Kansas	51-7
N. 16	@KANSAS STATE	31-21
N. 29	Colorado	36-62

Coach: *Frank Solich* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Cream*
Nickname: *Cornhuskers* ***2001 Record:*** *11-1*

Nevada Reno, NV

A. 31	@WASHINGTON STATE	
S. 14	Brigham Young	7-52
S. 21	Rice	30-33 (OT)
S. 28	Colorado State	18-35
O. 5	@UNLV	12-27
O. 12	@HAWAII	28-20
O. 19	San Jose State	45-64
O. 26	@LOUISIANA TECH	42-45
N. 2	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	35-14
N. 9	UTEP	48-31
N. 16	@FRESNO STATE	14-61
N. 23	Boise State	7-49

Coach: *Chris Tormey* ***Colors:*** *Royal Blue & Silver*
Nickname: *Wolf Pack* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

New Hampshire Durham, NH

A. 29	@KENT STATE	
S. 7	@JAMES MADISON	26-19
S. 14	Hofstra	20-35
S. 21	@VILLANOVA	35-38
S. 28	@DARTMOUTH	42-38
O. 12	Richmond	
O. 19	William & Mary	28-38
O. 26	@DELAWARE	36-49
N. 9	Massachusetts	35-24
N. 16	Northeastern	11-34
N. 23	@MAINE	24-57

Coach: *Sean McDonnell* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

New Mexico Albuquerque, NM

A. 24	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	
A. 31	Weber State	
S. 7	@AIR FORCE	52-33
S. 14	Baylor	13-16 (OT)
S. 21	@NEW MEXICO STATE	53-0
S. 27	Texas Tech	30-42
O. 12	@UNLV	27-17
O. 19	@UTAH STATE	
O. 26	Utah	16-37
N. 9	San Diego State	20-15
N. 16	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	20-24
N. 23	@COLORADO STATE	17-24
N. 30	Wyoming	30-29

Coach: *Rocky Long* ***Colors:*** *Cherry & Silver*
Nickname: *Lobos* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

New Mexico State Las Cruces, NM

A. 31	@SOUTH CAROLINA	
S. 7	@CALIFORNIA	
S. 21	New Mexico	0-53
S. 28	@GEORGIA	
O. 5	UTEP	
O. 12	Louisiana-Lafayette	49-46
O. 19	Louisiana-Monroe	31-0
O. 26	@ARKANSAS STATE	28-17
N. 2	Middle Tennessee State	35-39
N. 9	@UTAH STATE	
N. 16	@NORTH TEXAS	20-22
N. 23	@IDAHO	46-39

Coach: *Tony Samuel* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & White*
Nickname: *Aggies* ***2001 Record:*** *5-7*

Nicholls State Thibodaux, LA

A. 29	West Virginia Tech	
S. 7	@NORTH TEXAS	
S. 14	@SAMFORD	20-16
S. 21	Jacksonville State	15-34
O. 5	Florida Atlantic	
O. 12	Stephen F. Austin	21-23
O. 19	@SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE	33-14
O. 26	Northwestern State	14-47
N. 16	@SAM HOUSTON STATE	32-35
N. 23	@MCNEESE STATE	27-34

Coach: *Daryl Daye* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Royal*
Nickname: *Colonels* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Norfolk State Norfolk, VA

A. 31	Virginia State	13-0
S. 14	@SAVANNAH STATE	27-18
S. 28	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN	7-32
O. 5	@NORTH CAROLINA A&T	0-43
O. 12	South Carolina State	10-16
O. 19	@HAMPTON	28-20
O. 26	Florida A&M	9-47
N. 2	@HOWARD	7-0 (OT)
N. 9	Morgan State	33-27
N. 16	Delaware State	13-43
N. 23	Morris Brown	14-32

Coach: *Maurice Forte* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Spartans* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC

A. 31	Miami (OH)	
S. 7	@SYRACUSE	
S. 14	Texas	14-44
S. 28	Georgia Tech	21-28
O. 5	@ARIZONA STATE	
O. 12	North Carolina State	17-9
O. 19	@VIRGINIA	30-24
O. 26	@WAKE FOREST	31-32
N. 2	Maryland	7-23
N. 9	Clemson	38-3
N. 16	@FLORIDA STATE	41-9
N. 23	@DUKE	52-17

Coach: *John Bunting* ***Colors:*** *Carolina Blue & White*
Nickname: *Tar Heels* ***2001 Record:*** *7-5*

North Carolina A&T Greensboro, NC

A. 31	North Carolina Central	22-0
S. 7	Jackson State	42-35
S. 14	@PORTLAND STATE	
S. 28	Elon	23-7
O. 5	Norfolk State	43-0
O. 12	Morgan State	42-52
O. 19	@FLORIDA A&M	55-23
O. 26	@HOWARD	76-30
N. 2	Bethune-Cookman	16-14
N. 9	@DELAWARE STATE	36-30
N. 16	@HAMPTON	7-23
N. 23	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE+	14-15

+ At Atlanta, GA

Coach: *Bill Hayes* ***Colors:*** *Navy Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Aggies* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

North Carolina State Raleigh, NC

A. 24	New Mexico	
A. 31	East Tennessee State	
S. 7	@NAVY	
S. 14	Wake Forest	17-14
S. 21	@TEXAS TECH	
S. 28	Massachusetts	
O. 12	@NORTH CAROLINA	9-17
O. 19	Duke	55-31
O. 26	@CLEMSON	37-45
N. 2	Georgia Tech	17-27
N. 9	@MARYLAND	19-23
N. 16	@VIRGINIA	24-0
N. 23	Florida State	34-28

Coach: *Chuck Amato* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Wolfpack* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

North Texas Denton, TX

A. 31	@TEXAS	
S. 7	Nicholls State	
S. 14	@ALABAMA	
S. 21	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	5-19
S. 28	@ARIZONA	
O. 5	South Florida	10-28
O. 19	@ARKANSAS STATE	45-0
O. 26	@LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	42-17
N. 2	Louisiana-Monroe	17-19
N. 9	Idaho	50-27
N. 16	New Mexico State	22-20
N. 23	@MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	24-21

Coach: *Darrell Dickey* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Northeastern Boston, MA

A. 31	Lock Haven	
S. 7	@OHIO	
S. 21	Massachusetts	10-17
S. 28	Hofstra	21-45
O. 5	@DELAWARE	20-7
O. 12	Rhode Island	26-27
O. 19	@HARVARD	20-35
O. 26	@WILLIAM & MARY	
N. 2	@RICHMOND	7-0
N. 9	Villanova	14-31
N. 16	@NEW HAMPSHIRE	34-11
N. 23	James Madison	24-17

Coach: *Don Brown* ***Colors:*** *Red & Black*
Nickname: *Huskies* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Northern Arizona Flagstaff, AZ

A. 29	@ARIZONA	
S. 7	@CAL POLY	
S. 14	Sam Houston State	31-34
S. 28	Portland State	30-33
O. 5	Weber State	42-32
O. 12	Sacramento State	50-40
O. 19	@EASTERN WASHINGTON	42-33
O. 26	Montana State	35-28
N. 2	@MONTANA	27-38
N. 9	@IDAHO STATE	51-26
N. 16	@ST. MARY'S (CA)	

Coach: *Jerome Souers* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Lumberjacks* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Northern Illinois De Kalb, IL

A. 29	Wake Forest	35-38
S. 7	@SOUTH FLORIDA	20-17
S. 14	@WISCONSIN	
S. 21	Western Illinois	
S. 28	Kent State	34-44
O. 5	@BALL STATE	33-29
O. 12	@MIAMI (OH)	
O. 19	Central Michigan	33-24
O. 26	@WESTERN MICHIGAN	20-12
N. 9	Bowling Green	
N. 16	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	40-17
N. 23	Toledo	20-41

Coach: *Joe Novak* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Black*
Nickname: *Huskies* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Northern Iowa Cedar Falls, IA

A. 29	Wayne State (MI)	34-14
S. 7	@OKLAHOMA STATE	
S. 21	Stephen F. Austin	
S. 28	@CAL POLY	31-13
O. 5	Western Kentucky	24-23
O. 12	@SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	19-14
O. 19	@YOUNGSTOWN STATE	30-11
O. 26	Illinois State	14-42
N. 2	@INDIANA STATE	34-13
N. 9	Western Illinois	17-14
N. 16	SMS	27-3

Coach: *Mark Farley* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Old Gold*
Nickname: *Panthers* ***2001 Record:*** *11-3*

Northwestern Evanston, IL

A. 31	@AIR FORCE	
S. 7	Texas Christian	
S. 14	Duke	44-7
S. 21	@NAVY	
S. 28	@MICHIGAN STATE	27-26
O. 5	Ohio State	20-38
O. 12	@MINNESOTA	23-17
O. 19	@PENN STATE	35-38
O. 26	Purdue	27-32
N. 2	Indiana	21-56
N. 9	@IOWA	16-59
N. 23	Illinois	28-34

Coach: *Randy Walker* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Northwestern State Natchitoches, LA

A. 31	Delta State	
S. 7	Southern University	30-21
S. 14	@DELAWARE STATE	
S. 21	@GEORGIA	
O. 5	Elon	24-6
O. 12	Southwest Texas State	20-17
O. 19	Southwestern Oklahoma	
O. 26	@NICHOLLS STATE	47-14
N. 2	Sam Houston State	14-30
N. 9	@JACKSONVILLE STATE	42-17
N. 16	McNeese State	10-17
N. 23	@STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	31-17

Coach: *Scott Stoker* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Demons* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Notre Dame Notre Dame, IN

A. 31	@MARYLAND@	
S. 7	Purdue	24-18
S. 14	Michigan	
S. 21	@MICHIGAN STATE	10-17
O. 5	Stanford	13-17
O. 12	Pittsburgh	24-7
O. 19	@AIR FORCE	
O. 26	@FLORIDA STATE	
N. 2	Boston College	17-21
N. 9	@NAVY	34-16
N. 23	Rutgers	
N. 30	@USC	27-16

@ At East Rutherford, NJ

Coach: *Tyrone Willingham* ***Colors:*** *Gold & Blue*
Nickname: *Fighting Irish* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Ohio Athens, OH

A. 31	@PITTSBURGH	
S. 7	Northeastern	
S. 14	@FLORIDA	
S. 21	@CONNECTICUT	
S. 28	Buffalo	0-44
O. 5	@BOWLING GREEN	0-17
O. 12	Eastern Michigan	
O. 19	@KENT STATE	14-24
N. 2	@MIAMI (OH)	24-36
N. 9	Akron	29-31
N. 23	Marshall	18-42
N. 30	@UCF	

Coach: *Brian Knorr* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Bobcats* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Ohio State Columbus, OH

A. 24	Texas Tech	
S. 7	Kent State	
S. 14	Washington State	
S. 21	@CINCINNATI	
S. 28	Indiana	27-14
O. 5	@NORTHWESTERN	38-20
O. 12	San Jose State	
O. 19	@WISCONSIN	17-20
O. 26	Penn State	27-29
N. 2	Minnesota	31-28
N. 9	@PURDUE	35-9
N. 16	@ILLINOIS	22-34
N. 23	Michigan	26-20

Coach: *Jim Tressel* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Gray*
Nickname: *Buckeyes* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Oklahoma Norman, OK

A. 30	@TULSA	58-0
S. 7	Alabama	
S. 14	UTEP	
S. 28	South Florida	
O. 5	@MISSOURI	
O. 12	@TEXAS+	14-3
O. 19	Iowa State	
N. 2	Colorado	
N. 9	@TEXAS A&M	31-10
N. 16	@BAYLOR	33-17
N. 23	Texas Tech	30-13
N. 30	@OKLAHOMA STATE	13-16

+ At Dallas, TX

Coach: *Bob Stoops* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & Cream*
Nickname: *Sooners* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

Oklahoma State Stillwater, OK

A. 31	@LOUISIANA TECH	30-23
S. 7	Northern Iowa	
S. 14	UCLA	
S. 21	Southern Methodist	
O. 5	@TEXAS	17-45
O. 12	@KANSAS STATE	
O. 19	Nebraska	
N. 2	Texas A&M	7-21
N. 9	@TEXAS TECH	30-49
N. 16	@KANSAS	
N. 23	Baylor	38-22
N. 30	Oklahoma	16-13

Coach: *Les Miles* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Black*
Nickname: *Cowboys* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Oregon Eugene, OR

A. 31	Mississippi State	
S. 7	Fresno State	
S. 14	Idaho	
S. 21	Portland State	
O. 5	@ARIZONA	63-28
O. 12	@UCLA	21-20
O. 19	Arizona State	42-24
O. 26	USC	24-22
N. 2	Stanford	42-49
N. 9	@WASHINGTON STATE	24-17
N. 16	Washington	
N. 23	@OREGON STATE	17-14

Coach: *Mike Bellotti* ***Colors:*** *Green & Yellow*
Nickname: *Ducks* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Oregon State Corvallis, OR

A. 29	Eastern Kentucky	
S. 5	@TEMPLE	
S. 14	UNLV	
S. 21	Fresno State	24-44
S. 28	@USC	13-16 (OT)
O. 5	UCLA	7-38
O. 12	@ARIZONA STATE	24-41
O. 26	California	19-10
N. 2	Arizona	38-3
N. 9	@WASHINGTON	49-24
N. 16	@STANFORD	
N. 23	Oregon	14-17

Coach: *Dennis Erickson* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Black*
Nickname: *Beavers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Penn State University Park, PA

A. 31	UCF	
S. 14	Nebraska	
S. 21	Louisiana Tech	
S. 28	Iowa	18-24
O. 5	@WISCONSIN	6-18
O. 12	@MICHIGAN	0-20
O. 19	Northwestern	38-35
O. 26	@OHIO STATE	29-27
N. 2	Illinois	28-33
N. 9	Virginia	14-20
N. 16	@INDIANA	28-14
N. 23	Michigan State	42-37

Coach: *Joe Paterno* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Nittany Lions* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA

S. 21	@LAFAYETTE	37-0
S. 28	Lehigh	
O. 5	Dartmouth	21-20
O. 12	@VILLANOVA	
O. 19	Columbia	35-7
O. 26	@YALE	21-3
N. 2	Brown	27-14
N. 9	@PRINCETON	21-10
N. 16	Harvard	21-28
N. 23	@CORNELL	38-14

Coach: *Al Bagnoli* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Quakers* ***2001 Record:*** *8-1*

Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA

A. 31	Ohio	
S. 7	Texas A&M	
S. 14	@UAB	24-6
S. 21	Rutgers	42-0
S. 28	Toledo	
O. 5	@SYRACUSE	10-42
O. 12	@NOTRE DAME	7-24
O. 26	Boston College	7-45
N. 2	@VIRGINIA TECH	38-7
N. 9	Temple	33-7
N. 21	@MIAMI (FL)	21-43
N. 30	West Virginia	23-17

Coach: *Walt Harris* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Panthers* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Portland State Portland, OR

A. 31	Stephen F. Austin	16-13
S. 14	North Carolina A&T	
S. 21	@OREGON	
S. 28	@NORTHERN ARIZONA	33-30
O. 5	Southwest Texas State	20-23
O. 12	Eastern Washington	37-22
O. 19	@SACRAMENTO STATE	52-33
O. 26	Montana	13-33
N. 2	Idaho State	17-23
N. 9	@WEBER STATE	65-43
N. 16	@MONTANA STATE	33-21

Coach: *Tim Walsh* ***Colors:*** *Forest Green & White*
Nickname: *Vikings* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Prairie View A&M Prairie View, TX

A. 31	@TEXAS SOUTHERN	0-17
S. 7	@TENNESSEE STATE+	
S. 14	@TEXAS A&M-KINGSVILLE	14-21
S. 28	@ALABAMA A&M	
O. 5	Grambling State#	6-40
O. 12	Alcorn State	20-48
O. 19	@PAUL QUINN	37-6
O. 26	Southern University	28-43
N. 2	@MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	34-17
N. 9	@ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	35-16
N. 16	@JACKSON STATE	20-38

+ At Nashville, TN
# At Dallas, TX

Coach: *Larry Dorsey* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Panthers* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Princeton Princeton, NJ

S. 21	@LEHIGH	10-34
S. 28	Lafayette	
O. 5	@COLUMBIA	44-11
O. 12	Colgate	10-35
O. 19	Brown	24-35
O. 26	Harvard	26-28
N. 2	@CORNELL	7-10
N. 9	Pennsylvania	10-21
N. 16	@YALE	34-14
N. 23	Dartmouth	35-14

Coach: *Roger Hughes* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Black*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *3-6*

Purdue West Lafayette, IN

A. 31	Illinois State	
S. 7	@NOTRE DAME	18-24
S. 14	Western Michigan	
S. 21	Wake Forest	
S. 28	Minnesota	35-28 (OT)
O. 5	@IOWA	23-14
O. 12	@ILLINOIS	13-38
O. 19	Michigan	10-24
O. 26	@NORTHWESTERN	32-27
N. 9	Ohio State	9-35
N. 16	@MICHIGAN STATE	24-14
N. 23	Indiana	7-13

Coach: *Joe Tiller* ***Colors:*** *Old Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Boilermakers* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Rhode Island Kingston, RI

A. 31	Bryant College	
S. 7	@HOFSTRA	35-26
S. 14	@SYRACUSE	
S. 28	@MAINE	14-26
O. 5	Brown	42-38
O. 12	@NORTHEASTERN	27-26
O. 19	Delaware	10-7
O. 26	Richmond	0-28
N. 2	James Madison	16-12
N. 9	@WILLIAM & MARY	34-31
N. 16	@VILLANOVA	
N. 23	Massachusetts	7-24

Coach: *Tim Stowers* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Rams* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Rice Houston, TX

A. 31	Houston	21-14
S. 7	@MICHIGAN STATE	
S. 14	@NAVY	21-13
S. 21	@NEVADA	33-30 (OT)
S. 28	Fresno State	24-52
O. 5	Louisiana Tech	38-41 (OT)
O. 19	@UTEP	27-17
O. 26	Southern Methodist	20-37
N. 2	@TULSA	59-32
N. 9	@BOISE STATE	45-14
N. 16	Hawaii	27-24

Coach: *Ken Hatfield* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gray*
Nickname: *Owls* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Richmond Richmond, VA

A. 29	@TEMPLE	
S. 7	Delaware	6-10
S. 21	Furman	
O. 5	Massachusetts	35-7
O. 12	@NEW HAMPSHIRE	
O. 19	James Madison	20-17
O. 26	@RHODE ISLAND	28-0
N. 2	Northeastern	0-7
N. 9	@HOFSTRA	21-35
N. 16	Maine	3-14
N. 23	@WILLIAM & MARY	20-23

Coach: *Jim Reid* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Spiders* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Robert Morris Moon Township, PA

S. 7	Buffalo State	27-33
S. 14	@DAYTON	9-37
S. 21	Central Connecticut State	38-18
S. 28	Monmouth (NJ)	
O. 5	@SACRED HEART	31-44
O. 12	@WAGNER	49-30
O. 26	@GANNON	
N. 2	Albany (NY)	42-31
N. 9	@STONY BROOK	45-19
N. 16	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	41-7

Coach: *Joe Walton* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Colonials* ***2001 Record:*** *6-3*

Rutgers Piscataway, NJ

A. 31	Villanova	
S. 7	Buffalo	31-15
S. 14	Army	
S. 21	@PITTSBURGH	0-42
S. 28	@TENNESSEE	
O. 12	West Virginia	7-80
O. 19	@VIRGINIA TECH	0-50
O. 26	@SYRACUSE	17-24
N. 2	Miami (FL)	0-61
N. 16	Temple	5-30
N. 23	@NOTRE DAME	
N. 30	@BOSTON COLLEGE	7-38

Coach: *Greg Schiano* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet*
Nickname: *Scarlet Knights* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Sacramento State Sacramento, CA

A. 31	@UTEP	
S. 7	@ST. MARY'S (CA)	13-6 (OT)
S. 21	Cal Poly	21-55
S. 28	@IDAHO STATE	33-27
O. 5	California-Davis	0-43
O. 12	@NORTHERN ARIZONA	40-50
O. 19	Portland State	33-52
O. 26	@EASTERN WASHINGTON	35-42 (OT)
N. 2	Montana State	0-20
N. 9	@MONTANA	7-42
N. 16	Weber State	31-38
N. 23	Humboldt State	

Coach: *John Volek* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Hornets* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Sacred Heart Fairfield, CT

S. 14	@MONMOUTH (NJ)	44-14
S. 21	Albany (NY)	32-17
S. 28	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	58-0
O. 5	Robert Morris	44-31
O. 12	Siena	34-0
O. 19	@STONY BROOK	42-24
O. 26	Central Connecticut State	41-21
N. 2	Wagner	45-24
N. 16	Iona	49-7

Coach: *Jim Fleming* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Pioneers* ***2001 Record:*** *11-0*

Sam Houston State Huntsville, TX

A. 29	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	
S. 7	Midwestern State	
S. 14	@NORTHERN ARIZONA	34-31
S. 21	Mississippi Valley State	68-13
S. 28	@WESTERN ILLINOIS	49-24
O. 12	@JACKSONVILLE STATE	55-30
O. 19	@STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	24-21
O. 26	McNeese State	23-35
N. 2	@NORTHWESTERN STATE	30-14
N. 16	Nicholls State	35-32
N. 23	Southwest Texas State	31-13

Coach: *Ron Randleman* ***Colors:*** *Orange & White*
Nickname: *Bearkats* ***2001 Record:*** *10-3*

Samford Birmingham, AL

A. 29	North Alabama	
S. 7	@BAYLOR	
S. 14	Nicholls State	16-20
S. 21	Tennessee-Martin	31-8
O. 5	@JACKSONVILLE STATE	7-39
O. 19	Alcorn State	7-17
O. 26	@MORRIS BROWN	
N. 2	@MURRAY STATE	
N. 9	Tennessee Tech	
N. 16	@SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	
N. 23	@YOUNGSTOWN STATE	

Coach: *Bill Gray* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *5-5*

San Diego San Diego, CA

S. 7	@AZUSA PACIFIC	34-13
S. 14	La Verne	
S. 21	@YALE	
O. 5	Jacksonville	
O. 12	Western Oregon	
O. 19	@BUTLER	16-19
O. 26	Valparaiso	20-17
N. 2	@DRAKE	31-24
N. 9	Southern Oregon	
N. 16	Dayton	14-35

Coach: *Kevin McGarry* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Toreros* ***2001 Record:*** *6-3*

San Diego State San Diego, CA

A. 29	@FRESNO STATE	
S. 7	@COLORADO	
S. 14	Arizona State	7-38
S. 21	@IDAHO	
S. 28	UCLA	
O. 12	Utah	3-17
O. 19	@WYOMING	38-16
O. 26	UNLV	3-31
N. 2	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	21-59
N. 9	@NEW MEXICO	15-20
N. 16	Colorado State	14-7
N. 23	@AIR FORCE	21-45
D. 7	@HAWAII	

Coach: *Tom Craft* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Black*
Nickname: *Aztecs* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

San Jose State San Jose, CA

A. 31	@ARKANSAS STATE	
S. 7	@WASHINGTON	
S. 14	@STANFORD	14-41
S. 21	@ILLINOIS	
S. 28	UTEP	40-28
O. 5	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	17-24
O. 12	@OHIO STATE	
O. 19	@NEVADA	64-45
O. 26	Boise State	6-56
N. 2	@HAWAII	10-34
N. 9	Louisiana Tech	20-41
N. 16	@TULSA	63-27
N. 23	Fresno State	21-40

Coach: *Fitz Hill* ***Colors:*** *Gold & Blue*
Nickname: *Spartans* ***2001 Record:*** *3-9*

Savannah State Savannah, GA

A. 31	@BETHUNE-COOKMAN+	
S. 7	@DELAWARE STATE	22-45
S. 14	Norfolk State	18-27
S. 21	South Carolina State	14-9
O. 5	@ALBANY STATE (GA)	14-31
O. 12	Charleston Southern	
O. 19	@MORRIS BROWN	17-14
N. 2	Fort Valley State	0-35
N. 16	@GARDNER-WEBB	14-34
N. 23	Alabama State	

+ At Jacksonville, FL

Coach: *Michael Wallace* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Orange*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *2-7*

Siena Loudonville, NY

S. 7	@IONA	19-21
S. 14	Duquesne	0-55
S. 21	@CANISIUS	17-34
S. 28	@LA SALLE	20-6
O. 5	@ST. PETER'S	0-35
O. 12	@SACRED HEART	0-34
O. 19	Fairfield	13-42
O. 26	Stony Brook	
N. 2	St. John's (NY)	
N. 16	Marist	7-14

Coach: *Jay Bateman* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Saints* ***2001 Record:*** *1-8*

South Carolina Columbia, SC

A. 31	New Mexico State	
S. 7	@VIRGINIA	
S. 14	Georgia	14-9
S. 21	Temple	
S. 28	@VANDERBILT	46-14
O. 5	Mississippi State	16-14
O. 12	@KENTUCKY	42-6
O. 19	@LSU	
N. 2	Tennessee	10-17
N. 9	Arkansas	7-10
N. 16	@FLORIDA	17-54
N. 23	@CLEMSON	20-15

Coach: *Lou Holtz* ***Colors:*** *Garnet & Black*
Nickname: *Gamecocks* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

South Carolina State Orangeburg, SC

A. 31	Tennessee State	
S. 7	@Benedict	
S. 14	Wofford	
S. 21	@SAVANNAH STATE	9-14
O. 5	@FLORIDA A&M	27-33
O. 12	@NORFOLK STATE	16-10
O. 19	Bethune-Cookman	10-24
O. 26	Hampton	17-28
N. 2	@DELAWARE STATE	42-21
N. 9	Howard	37-33
N. 16	Morgan State	29-26
N. 23	North Carolina A&T#	15-14

At Atlanta, GA

Coach: *Buddy Pough* ***Colors:*** *Garnet & Blue*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

South Florida Tampa, FL

A. 29	Florida Atlantic	
S. 7	Northern Illinois	17-20
S. 14	@ARKANSAS	
S. 28	@OKLAHOMA	
O. 5	@NORTH TEXAS	28-10
O. 12	Southern Mississippi	
O. 19	@EAST CAROLINA	
N. 2	Charleston Southern	
N. 9	Memphis	9-17
N. 16	Bowling Green	
N. 23	@HOUSTON	45-6

Coach: *Jim Leavitt* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Bulls* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Southeast Missouri St. Cape Girardeau, MO

A. 29	Arkansas-Monticello	
S. 7	@SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	24-5
S. 14	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	12-16
S. 21	@SMS	28-31
S. 28	@MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	
O. 5	Tennessee State	14-20
O. 12	@TENNESSEE-MARTIN	45-30
O. 19	Eastern Illinois	0-12
O. 26	@MURRAY STATE	35-45
N. 2	Tennessee Tech	21-41
N. 9	@EASTERN KENTUCKY	24-42
N. 16	Samford	

Coach: *Tim Billings* ***Colors:*** *Red & Black*
Nickname: *Indians* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Southern Cal Los Angeles, CA

S. 2	Auburn	
S. 14	@COLORADO	
S. 21	@KANSAS STATE	6-10
S. 28	Oregon State	16-13 (OT)
O. 5	@WASHINGTON STATE	
O. 12	California	55-14
O. 19	Washington	24-27
O. 26	@OREGON	22-24
N. 9	@STANFORD	16-21
N. 16	Arizona State	48-17
N. 23	@UCLA	27-0
N. 30	Notre Dame	16-27

Coach: *Pete Carroll* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Gold*
Nickname: *Trojans* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Southern Illinois Carbondale, IL

A. 31	Kentucky Wesleyan	
S. 7	Southeast Missouri State	5-24
S. 14	@MURRAY STATE	20-24
S. 21	West Virginia Tech	
S. 28	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	
O. 5	Western Illinois	21-38
O. 12	Northern Iowa	14-19
O. 19	@ILLINOIS STATE	23-17
O. 26	@SMS	24-25
N. 2	@YOUNGSTOWN STATE	7-31
N. 9	Indiana State	14-20
N. 16	Western Kentucky	6-36

Coach: *Jerry Kill* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Salukis* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Southern Methodist Dallas, TX

A. 31	Navy	
S. 7	Texas Tech	
S. 14	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	10-38
S. 21	@OKLAHOMA STATE	
S. 28	@HAWAII	31-38 (OT)
O. 5	San Jose State	24-17
O. 12	@FRESNO STATE	13-38
O. 19	Louisiana Tech	6-36
O. 26	@RICE	37-20
N. 2	Nevada	14-35
N. 16	@UTEP	40-14
N. 23	Tulsa	24-14

Coach: *Phil Bennett* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Mustangs* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg, MS

A. 31	Jackson State	
S. 7	Illinois	
S. 14	Memphis	17-22
S. 21	@ALABAMA	15-28
S. 28	@ARMY	
O. 12	@SOUTH FLORIDA	
O. 19	Cincinnati	
O. 30	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	12-14
N. 9	@UAB	3-0
N. 14	Louisville	14-24
N. 23	@TULANE	59-6
N. 30	East Carolina	28-21

Coach: *Jeff Bower* ***Colors:*** *Black & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Southern University Baton Rouge, LA

A. 31	@TULANE	7-41
S. 7	@NORTHWESTERN STATE	21-30
S. 14	@ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	35-14
S. 21	Jackson State	21-24
S. 28	Nicholls State	
O. 6	@ALABAMA A&M+	23-20
O. 12	Mississippi Valley State	49-0
O. 26	@PRAIRIE VIEW A&M	43-28
N. 9	Miles College	
N. 16	Texas Southern	7-6
N. 30	Grambling State	

+ At Indianapolis, IN

Coach: *Pete Richardson* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Jaguars* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Southern Utah Cedar City, UT

S. 7	Mesa State	10-13
S. 14	@TROY STATE	17-20
S. 21	Eastern Washington	
S. 28	@SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE	
O. 5	@STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	
O. 12	Cal Poly	24-34
O. 19	@MONTANA	
O. 26	St. Mary's (CA)	21-28
N. 2	@ARKANSAS STATE	
N. 16	Western Illinois	20-27
N. 23	Idaho State	23-30

Coach: *Ray Gregory* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Blue*
Nickname: *Thunderbirds* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Southwest Missouri State Springfield, MO

A. 29	East Central	
S. 7	@HAMPTON	
S. 14	@KANSAS	10-24
S. 21	Southeast Missouri State	31-28
S. 28	Youngstown State	20-41
O. 5	@ILLINOIS STATE	48-31
O. 12	@INDIANA STATE	19-25
O. 19	Western Kentucky	7-23
O. 26	Southern Illinois	25-24
N. 2	Western Illinois	43-28
N. 16	@NORTHERN IOWA	3-27

Coach: *Randy Ball* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Bears* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Southwest Texas State San Marcos, TX

A. 31	@MINNESOTA	
S. 7	Texas A&M-Kingsville	
S. 21	Texas Southern	
S. 28	Southern Utah	
O. 5	@PORTLAND STATE	23-20
O. 12	@NORTHWESTERN STATE	17-20
O. 19	Nicholls State	14-33
N. 2	Jacksonville State	17-38
N. 9	@MCNEESE STATE	3-21
N. 16	Stephen F. Austin	13-35
N. 23	@SAM HOUSTON STATE	13-31

Coach: *Bob DeBesse* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gold*
Nickname: *Bobcats* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

St. Francis (PA) Loretto, PA

S. 7	Dayton	0-70
S. 14	St. Peter's	7-27
S. 28	Sacred Heart	0-58
O. 5	Stony Brook	0-34
O. 12	@CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE	6-19
O. 19	Wagner	7-38
O. 26	@ALBANY (NY)	14-24
N. 2	@LA SALLE	37-42
N. 9	@MONMOUTH (NJ)	0-28
N. 16	Robert Morris	7-41

Coach: *David Opfar* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Red Flash* ***2001 Record:*** *0-10*

St. John's (NY) Jamaica, NY

S. 7	Canisius	
S. 14	@STONY BROOK	16-13 (OT)
S. 21	Iona	16-30
S. 28	@CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE	7-12
O. 12	@MARIST	
O. 19	@DUQUESNE	
O. 26	St. Peter's	7-28
N. 2	@SIENA	
N. 9	@FAIRFIELD	
N. 16	La Salle	12-28

Coach: *Bob Ricca* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Red Storm* ***2001 Record:*** *1-9*

St. Mary's (CA) Moraga, CA

A.	31	@MONTANA STATE	
S.	7	Sacramento State	6-13 (OT)
S.	14	Bucknell	6-38
S.	21	@CENTRAL WASHINGTON	35-23
S.	28	Western Washington	
O.	5	@HUMBOLDT STATE	49-10
O.	12	@HOLY CROSS	
O.	19	Cal Poly	0-10
O.	26	@SOUTHERN UTAH	28-21
N.	2	@CALIFORNIA-DAVIS	28-21
N.	9	Drake	
N.	16	Northern Arizona	

Coach: *Tim Landis* ***Colors:*** *Red & Blue*
Nickname: *Gaels* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

St. Peter's Jersey City, NJ

A.	29	@FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	
S.	7	@FORDHAM	
S.	14	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	27-7
S.	21	La Salle	23-7
S.	28	@CANISIUS	63-0
O.	5	Siena	35-0
O.	12	Duquesne	10-28
O.	19	Marist	13-7
O.	26	@ST. JOHN'S (NY)	28-7
N.	2	@FAIRFIELD	17-7
N.	9	@IONA	31-7

Coach: *Rob Stern* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Peacocks* ***2001 Record:*** *10-1*

Stanford Stanford, CA

S.	7	@BOSTON COLLEGE	38-22
S.	14	San Jose State	41-14
S.	28	@ARIZONA STATE	51-28
O.	5	@NOTRE DAME	17-13
O.	12	Washington State	39-45
O.	19	Arizona	51-37
O.	26	@UCLA	38-28
N.	2	@OREGON	49-42
N.	9	USC	21-16
N.	16	Oregon State	
N.	23	@CALIFORNIA	35-28

Coach: *Buddy Teevens* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & White*
Nickname: *Cardinal* ***2001 Record:*** *9-2*

Stephen F. Austin Nacogdoches, TX

A.	31	@PORTLAND STATE	13-16
S.	7	Montana State	
S.	14	Henderson State	
S.	21	@NORTHERN IOWA	
O.	5	Southern Utah	
O.	12	@NICHOLLS STATE	23-21
O.	19	Sam Houston State	21-24
O.	26	@JACKSONVILLE STATE	44-37 (OT)
N.	2	McNeese State	26-14
N.	16	@SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE	35-13
N.	23	Northwestern State	17-31

Coach: *Mike Santiago* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Lumberjacks* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Stony Brook Stony Brook, NY

S.	14	St. John's (NY)	13-16 (OT)
S.	21	@WAGNER	52-30
S.	28	Albany (NY)	18-28
O.	5	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	34-0
O.	12	@MONMOUTH (NJ)	14-33
O.	19	Sacred Heart	24-42
O.	26	@SIENA	
N.	2	@CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE	17-15
N.	9	Robert Morris	19-45
N.	16	Canisius	

Coach: *Sam Kornhauser* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Gray*
Nickname: *Seawolves* ***2001 Record:*** *3-6*

Syracuse Syracuse, NY

A.	29	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	
S.	7	North Carolina	
S.	14	Rhode Island	
S.	28	@AUBURN	31-14
O.	5	Pittsburgh	42-10
O.	12	@TEMPLE	45-3
O.	19	@WEST VIRGINIA	24-13
O.	26	Rutgers	24-17
N.	2	@UCF	21-10
N.	9	Virginia Tech	22-14
N.	16	@BOSTON COLLEGE	39-28
N.	30	Miami (FL)	0-59

Coach: *Paul Pasqualoni* ***Colors:*** *Orange*
Nickname: *Orangemen* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Temple Philadelphia, PA

A.	29	Richmond	
S.	5	Oregon State	
S.	14	Miami (FL)	0-38
S.	21	@SOUTH CAROLINA	
S.	28	Cincinnati	
O.	12	Syracuse	3-45
O.	19	@CONNECTICUT	56-7
O.	26	@VIRGINIA TECH	0-35
N.	2	West Virginia	17-14
N.	9	@PITTSBURGH	7-33
N.	16	@RUTGERS	30-5
N.	23	Boston College	10-33

Coach: *Bobby Wallace* ***Colors:*** *Cherry & White*
Nickname: *Owls* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Tennessee Knoxville, TN

A.	31	Wyoming+	
S.	7	Middle Tennessee State	
S.	21	Florida	34-32
S.	28	Rutgers	
O.	5	Arkansas	13-3
O.	12	@GEORGIA	24-26
O.	26	Alabama	35-24
N.	2	@SOUTH CAROLINA	17-10
N.	9	Miami (FL)	
N.	16	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	
N.	23	@VANDERBILT	38-0
N.	30	Kentucky	38-35

+ At Nashville, TN

Coach: *Phillip Fulmer* ***Colors:*** *Orange & White*
Nickname: *Volunteers* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

Tennessee State Nashville, TN

A.	31	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	
S.	7	Prairie View A&M+	
S.	14	Jackson State	64-33
S.	21	@GRAMBLING STATE#	
S.	28	@FLORIDA A&M	27-7
O.	5	@SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	20-14
O.	12	@ALABAMA A&M	27-6
O.	26	Tennessee-Martin	55-7
N.	2	Eastern Illinois	49-52
N.	9	@MURRAY STATE	38-25
N.	16	Tennessee Tech	13-63
N.	23	Eastern Kentucky	10-13

+ At Nashville, TN
# At Las Vegas, NV

Coach: *James Reese* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Tennessee Tech Cookeville, TN

A.	31	@BOWLING GREEN	
S.	7	@IOWA STATE	
S.	14	Chattanooga	
S.	21	Valparaiso	
S.	28	Jacksonville State	35-27
O.	5	Eastern Illinois	33-44
O.	12	@MURRAY STATE	15-12
O.	26	Eastern Kentucky	10-34
N.	2	@SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	41-21
N.	9	@SAMFORD	
N.	16	@TENNESSEE STATE	63-13
N.	23	Tennessee-Martin	41-7

Coach: *Mike Hennigan* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Eagles* ***2001 Record:*** *7-3*

Tennessee-Martin Martin, TN

A.	29	Southwest Baptist	
S.	5	Tusculum	16-27
S.	12	Kentucky Wesleyan	54-14
S.	21	@SAMFORD	8-31
S.	28	@ARKANSAS STATE	
O.	5	@EASTERN KENTUCKY	10-42
O.	12	Southeast Missouri State	30-45
O.	26	@TENNESSEE STATE	7-55
N.	2	@GARDNER-WEBB	20-45
N.	9	@EASTERN ILLINOIS	16-56
N.	16	Murray State	17-35
N.	23	@TENNESSEE TECH	7-41

Coach: *Sam McCorkle* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Blue*
Nickname: *Skyhawks* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Texas Austin, TX

A.	31	North Texas	
S.	14	@NORTH CAROLINA	44-14
S.	21	Houston	53-26
S.	28	@TULANE	
O.	5	Oklahoma State	45-17
O.	12	Oklahoma+	3-14
O.	19	@KANSAS STATE	
O.	26	Iowa State	
N.	2	@NEBRASKA	
N.	9	Baylor	49-10
N.	16	@TEXAS TECH	42-7
N.	29	Texas A&M	21-7

+ At Dallas, TX

Coach: *Mack Brown* ***Colors:*** *White & Orange*
Nickname: *Longhorns* ***2001 Record:*** *10-2*

Texas A&M College Station, TX

A.	31	Louisiana-Lafayette	
S.	7	@PITTSBURGH	
S.	21	Virginia Tech	
S.	28	Louisiana Tech	
O.	5	Texas Tech	0-12
O.	12	@BAYLOR	16-10
O.	19	@KANSAS	
O.	26	Nebraska	
N.	2	@OKLAHOMA STATE	21-7
N.	9	Oklahoma	10-31
N.	16	Missouri	
N.	29	@TEXAS	7-21

Coach: *R.C. Slocum* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & White*
Nickname: *Aggies* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Texas Christian Fort Worth, TX

S.	2	@CINCINNATI	
S.	7	@NORTHWESTERN	
S.	14	Southern Methodist	38-10
S.	21	North Texas	19-5
O.	5	Houston	34-17
O.	12	@ARMY	38-20
O.	19	@LOUISVILLE	37-22
O.	30	Southern Mississippi	14-12
N.	9	Tulane	22-48
N.	23	@EAST CAROLINA	30-37
N.	30	Memphis	

Coach: *Gary Patterson* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Horned Frogs* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Texas Southern Houston, TX

A.	31	Prairie View A&M	17-0
S.	7	@HOWARD	
S.	14	@ALABAMA STATE	24-27
S.	21	@SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE	
S.	28	Alabama A&M	10-24
O.	12	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	22-28
O.	19	@STILLMAN	
O.	26	Mississippi Valley State	38-21
N.	2	Grambling State	3-43
N.	9	Clark Atlanta	
N.	16	@SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	6-7

Coach: *Bill Thomas* ***Colors:*** *Maroon & Gray*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Texas Tech Lubbock, TX

A.	24	@OHIO STATE	
S.	7	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	
S.	14	Mississippi	
S.	21	North Carolina State	
S.	27	@NEW MEXICO	42-30
O.	5	@TEXAS A&M	12-0
O.	12	@IOWA STATE	
O.	19	Missouri	
O.	26	@COLORADO	
N.	2	Baylor	63-19
N.	9	Oklahoma State	49-30
N.	16	Texas	7-42
N.	23	@OKLAHOMA	13-30

Coach: *Mike Leach* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Black*
Nickname: *Red Raiders* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Toledo Toledo, OH

A.	29	Cal Poly	
S.	7	@EASTERN MICHIGAN	28-7
S.	14	@MINNESOTA	38-7
S.	21	UNLV	
S.	28	@PITTSBURGH	
O.	12	Ball State	20-24
O.	19	@UCF	
O.	26	Miami (OH)	
N.	9	Central Michigan	52-28
N.	16	@WESTERN MICHIGAN	41-35
N.	23	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	41-20
N.	30	Bowling Green	21-56

Coach: *Tom Amstutz* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Rockets* ***2001 Record:*** *9-2*

Towson Towson, MD

S.	5	Morgan State	20-17 (OT)
S.	14	@LAFAYETTE	16-13 (OT)
S.	21	Brown	
S.	28	@HOLY CROSS	9-17
O.	5	@CORNELL	
O.	12	Lehigh	12-47
O.	19	Bucknell	10-51
O.	26	Colgate	5-37
N.	2	@MONMOUTH (NJ)	17-24
N.	16	@FORDHAM	23-28
N.	23	Georgetown	27-9

Coach: *Gordy Combs* ***Colors:*** *Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Tigers* ***2001 Record:*** *3-7*

Troy State Troy, AL

A.	31	@NEBRASKA	14-42
S.	7	@UAB	
S.	14	Southern Utah	20-17
S.	21	@IOWA STATE	
S.	28	@MISSOURI	
O.	5	Austin Peay	
O.	12	@MISSISSIPPI STATE	21-9
O.	19	@MARSHALL	
O.	26	Florida Atlantic	
N.	2	@ARKANSAS	
N.	9	Florida A&M+	
N.	16	Utah State	

+ At Mobile, AL

Coach: *Larry Blakeney* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & Black*
Nickname: *Trojans* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Tulane New Orleans, LA

A.	31	Southern University	41-7
S.	7	@HOUSTON	
S.	14	@EAST CAROLINA	24-51
S.	21	@MEMPHIS	
S.	28	Texas	
O.	5	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	
O.	12	Cincinnati	33-46
O.	19	UAB	27-34
O.	26	Navy	42-28
N.	9	@TEXAS CHRISTIAN	48-22
N.	16	Army	35-42
N.	23	Southern Mississippi	6-59

Coach: *Chris Scelfo* ***Colors:*** *Olive Green & Blue*
Nickname: *Green Wave* ***2001 Record:*** *3-9*

Tulsa Tulsa, OK

A.	30	Oklahoma	0-58
S.	7	@ARKANSAS STATE	
S.	14	@LOUISIANA TECH	7-19
S.	21	@BAYLOR	
S.	28	Kansas	
O.	12	Boise State	10-41
O.	19	@HAWAII	15-36
O.	26	UTEP	10-26
N.	2	Rice	32-59
N.	9	@FRESNO STATE	18-37
N.	16	San Jose State	27-63
N.	23	@SOUTHERN METHODIST	14-24

Coach: *Keith Burns* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & Gold*
Nickname: *Golden Hurricane* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

UAB Birmingham, AL

A.	31	@FLORIDA	
S.	7	Troy State	
S.	14	Pittsburgh	6-24
S.	21	@LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	
S.	28	Memphis	17-14
O.	12	Houston	43-21
O.	19	@TULANE	34-27
O.	26	@ARMY	55-3
N.	9	Southern Mississippi	0-3
N.	16	East Carolina	
N.	23	@LOUISVILLE	
N.	30	@CINCINNATI	17-31

Coach: *Watson Brown* ***Colors:*** *Green & Gold*
Nickname: *Blazers* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

UCLA Los Angeles, CA

S.	7	Colorado State	
S.	14	@OKLAHOMA STATE	
S.	21	Colorado	
S.	28	@SAN DIEGO STATE	
O.	5	@OREGON STATE	38-7
O.	12	Oregon	20-21
O.	19	@CALIFORNIA	56-17
O.	26	Stanford	28-38
N.	2	@WASHINGTON	35-13
N.	9	@ARIZONA	
N.	23	USC	0-27
D.	7	Washington State	14-20

Coach: *Bob Toledo* ***Colors:*** *Blue & Gold*
Nickname: *Bruins* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

UNLV Las Vegas, NV

A.	31	Wisconsin	
S.	7	Kansas	
S.	14	@OREGON STATE	
S.	21	@TOLEDO	
O.	5	Nevada	27-12
O.	12	New Mexico	17-27
O.	19	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	31-35
O.	26	@SAN DIEGO STATE	31-3
N.	2	Wyoming	47-26
N.	9	@UTAH	14-42
N.	16	Air Force	34-10
N.	30	@COLORADO STATE	24-26

Coach: *John Robinson* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & Gray*
Nickname: *Rebels* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Utah Salt Lake City, UT

A. 31	@UTAH STATE	23-19
S. 7	Indiana	28-26
S. 14	@ARIZONA	
S. 21	@MICHIGAN	
S. 28	Air Force	37-38
O. 12	@SAN DIEGO STATE	17-3
O. 19	Colorado State	17-19
O. 26	@NEW MEXICO	37-16
N. 9	UNLV	42-14
N. 16	@WYOMING	35-0
N. 23	Brigham Young	21-24

Coach: *Ron McBride* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & White*
Nickname: *Utes* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Utah State Logan, UT

A. 31	Utah	19-23
S. 7	@NEBRASKA	
S. 14	Idaho State	28-27
S. 21	@IOWA	
S. 28	@BOISE STATE	
O. 4	Brigham Young	34-54
O. 19	New Mexico	
O. 26	@LOUISIANA-MONROE	
N. 9	New Mexico State	
N. 16	@TROY STATE	
N. 30	@MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	

Coach: *Mick Dennehy* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Aggies* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

UTEP El Paso, TX

A. 31	Sacramento State	
S. 7	@KENTUCKY	
S. 14	@OKLAHOMA	
S. 21	Hawaii	7-66
S. 28	@SAN JOSE STATE	28-40
O. 5	@NEW MEXICO STATE	
O. 19	Rice	17-27
O. 26	@TULSA	26-10
N. 2	Boise State	17-42
N. 9	@NEVADA	31-48
N. 16	Southern Methodist	14-40
N. 23	@LOUISIANA TECH	30-53

Coach: *Gary Nord* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Blue*
Nickname: *Miners* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Valparaiso Valparaiso, IN

S. 7	Morehead State	10-24
S. 14	Campbellsville	
S. 21	@TENNESSEE TECH	
S. 28	@ST. JOSEPH'S (IN)	24-7
O. 5	@DRAKE	17-7
O. 12	Dayton	3-49
O. 19	Davidson	7-24
O. 26	@SAN DIEGO	17-20
N. 2	Butler	21-38
N. 9	Lindenwood	
N. 16	Austin Peay	13-37

Coach: *Tom Horne* ***Colors:*** *Brown & Gold*
Nickname: *Crusaders* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Vanderbilt Nashville, TN

A. 31	@GEORGIA TECH	
S. 7	Furman	
S. 14	@AUBURN	21-24
S. 21	@MISSISSIPPI	27-38
S. 28	South Carolina	14-46
O. 12	Middle Tennessee State	28-37
O. 19	@GEORGIA	14-30
O. 26	Connecticut	
N. 2	Alabama	9-12
N. 9	Florida	13-71
N. 16	@KENTUCKY	30-56
N. 23	Tennessee	0-38

Coach: *Bobby Johnson* ***Colors:*** *Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Commodores* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Villanova Villanova, PA

A. 31	@RUTGERS	
S. 7	@COLGATE	38-14
S. 14	Maine	40-44
S. 21	New Hampshire	38-35
S. 28	@JAMES MADISON	45-44 (OT)
O. 5	Hofstra	54-34
O. 12	Pennsylvania	
O. 19	@MASSACHUSETTS	47-13
N. 2	William & Mary	44-47
N. 9	@NORTHEASTERN	31-14
N. 16	Rhode Island	
N. 23	@DELAWARE	19-14

Coach: *Andy Talley* ***Colors:*** *Blue & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Virginia Charlottesville, VA

A. 22	Colorado State	
A. 31	@FLORIDA STATE	7-43
S. 7	South Carolina	
S. 21	Akron	
S. 28	@WAKE FOREST	30-34
O. 5	@DUKE	31-10
O. 12	Clemson	26-24
O. 19	North Carolina	24-30
O. 26	@GEORGIA TECH	39-38
N. 9	@PENN STATE	20-14
N. 16	North Carolina State	0-24
N. 23	Maryland	21-41
N. 30	@VIRGINIA TECH	17-31

Coach: *Al Groh* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Blue*
Nickname: *Cavaliers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-7*

Virginia Military Lexington, VA

A. 31	@CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	
S. 7	Davidson	
S. 14	@WILLIAM & MARY	0-34
S. 21	@EAST TENNESSEE STATE	23-34
S. 28	Furman	7-65
O. 5	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	14-31
O. 12	Wofford	14-59
O. 19	@CHATTANOOGA	19-16 (OT)
O. 26	Liberty	
N. 2	Western Carolina	17-44
N. 9	@APPALACHIAN STATE	17-27
N. 16	@CITADEL	7-49

Coach: *Cal McCombs* ***Colors:*** *Red & Yellow*
Nickname: *Keydets* ***2001 Record:*** *1-10*

Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA

A. 25	Arkansas State	
S. 1	LSU	
S. 12	Marshall	
S. 21	@TEXAS A&M	
S. 28	@WESTERN MICHIGAN	31-0
O. 10	@BOSTON COLLEGE	34-20
O. 19	Rutgers	50-0
O. 26	Temple	35-0
N. 2	Pittsburgh	7-38
N. 9	@SYRACUSE	14-22
N. 20	West Virginia	35-0
N. 30	Virginia	31-17
D. 7	@MIAMI (FL)	24-26

Coach: *Frank Beamer* ***Colors:*** *Orange & Maroon*
Nickname: *Hokies* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Wagner Staten Island, NY

S. 7	@LA SALLE	
S. 14	Iona	
S. 21	Stony Brook	30-52
S. 28	@MARIST	
O. 5	@ALBANY (NY)	30-35
O. 12	Robert Morris	30-49
O. 19	@ST. FRANCIS (PA)	38-7
O. 26	Monmouth (NJ)	15-23
N. 2	@SACRED HEART	24-45
N. 9	@CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ST.	24-17 (OT)
N. 16	@JACKSONVILLE	

Coach: *Walt Hameline* ***Colors:*** *Green & White*
Nickname: *Seahawks* ***2001 Record:*** *3-6*

Wake Forest Winston-Salem, NC

A. 29	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	38-35
S. 7	East Carolina	21-19
S. 14	@NORTH CAROLINA STATE	14-17
S. 21	@PURDUE	
S. 28	Virginia	34-30
O. 5	@GEORGIA TECH	33-38
O. 12	Duke	42-35
O. 19	@CLEMSON	14-21
O. 26	North Carolina	32-31
N. 2	Florida State	24-48
N. 23	Navy	
N. 30	@MARYLAND	20-27

Coach: *Jim Grobe* ***Colors:*** *Black & Old Gold*
Nickname: *Demon Deacons* ***2001 Record:*** *6-5*

Washington Seattle, WA

A. 31	@MICHIGAN	23-18
S. 7	San Jose State	
S. 21	Wyoming	
S. 28	Idaho	53-3
O. 5	California	31-28
O. 12	Arizona	31-28
O. 19	@USC	27-24
O. 26	@ARIZONA STATE	33-31
N. 2	UCLA	13-35
N. 9	Oregon State	24-49
N. 16	@OREGON	
N. 23	@WASHINGTON STATE	26-14

Coach: *Rick Neuheisel* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Huskies* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

Washington State Pullman, WA

A. 31	Nevada	
S. 7	Idaho	36-7
S. 14	@OHIO STATE	
S. 21	Montana State	53-28
S. 28	@CALIFORNIA	51-20
O. 5	USC	
O. 12	@STANFORD	45-39
O. 26	@ARIZONA	48-21
N. 2	Arizona State	28-16
N. 9	Oregon	17-24
N. 23	Washington	14-26
N. 30	@HAWAII	
D. 7	@UCLA	20-14

Coach: *Mike Price* ***Colors:*** *Crimson & Gray*
Nickname: *Cougars* ***2001 Record:*** *9-2*

Weber State Ogden, UT

A. 31	@NEW MEXICO	
S. 14	Western State	
S. 21	Eastern Oregon	
O. 5	@NORTHERN ARIZONA	32-42
O. 12	Montana	23-38
O. 19	@MONTANA STATE	17-32
O. 26	@IDAHO STATE	42-17
N. 2	Eastern Washington	26-50
N. 9	Portland State	43-65
N. 16	@SACRAMENTO STATE	38-31
N. 23	@CAL POLY	43-40 (OT)

Coach: *Jerry Graybeal* ***Colors:*** *Purple & White*
Nickname: *Wildcats* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

West Virginia Morgantown, WV

A. 31	Chattanooga	
S. 7	@WISCONSIN	
S. 14	@CINCINNATI	
S. 28	East Carolina	
O. 5	Maryland	20-32
O. 12	@RUTGERS	80-7
O. 19	Syracuse	13-24
O. 26	Miami (FL)	3-45
N. 2	@TEMPLE	14-17
N. 9	Boston College	10-34
N. 20	@VIRGINIA TECH	0-35
N. 30	@PITTSBURGH	17-23

Coach: *Rich Rodriguez* ***Colors:*** *Old Gold & Blue*
Nickname: *Mountaineers* ***2001 Record:*** *3-8*

Western Carolina Cullowhee, NC

A. 31	@LIBERTY	63-0
S. 7	@AUBURN	
S. 14	West Virginia Tech	
S. 21	@CITADEL	28-25
S. 28	East Tennessee State	20-6
O. 5	@FURMAN	13-31
O. 12	Georgia Southern	14-50
O. 19	@WOFFORD	31-28
O. 26	Chattanooga	21-3
N. 2	@VIRGINIA MILITARY	44-17
N. 16	Appalachian State	24-34

Coach: *Kent Briggs* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Catamounts* ***2001 Record:*** *7-4*

Western Illinois Macomb, IL

A. 29	Drake	
S. 14	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	17-13
S. 21	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	
S. 28	Sam Houston State	24-49
O. 5	@SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	38-21
O. 12	Illinois State	33-23
O. 19	Indiana State	52-15
O. 26	Youngstown State	7-41
N. 2	@SMS	28-43
N. 9	@NORTHERN IOWA	14-17
N. 16	@SOUTHERN UTAH	27-20

Coach: *Don Patterson* ***Colors:*** *Purple & Gold*
Nickname: *Leathernecks* ***2001 Record:*** *9-3*

Western Kentucky Bowling Green, KY

A. 29	Drake	
S. 14	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	17-13
S. 21	@NORTHERN ILLINOIS	
S. 28	Sam Houston State	24-49
O. 5	@SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	38-21
O. 12	Illinois State	33-23
O. 19	Indiana State	52-15
O. 26	Youngstown State	7-41
N. 2	@SMS	28-43
N. 9	@NORTHERN IOWA	14-17
N. 16	@SOUTHERN UTAH	27-20

Coach: *Jack Harbaugh* ***Colors:*** *Red & White*
Nickname: *Hilltoppers* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Western Michigan Kalamazoo, MI

A. 29	Indiana State	
S. 7	@MICHIGAN	21-38
S. 14	@PURDUE	
S. 28	Virginia Tech	0-31
O. 5	@BUFFALO	
O. 12	UCF	
O. 19	@BOWLING GREEN	37-28
O. 26	Northern Illinois	12-20
N. 2	@BALL STATE	31-35
N. 9	Eastern Michigan	31-10
N. 16	Toledo	35-41
N. 23	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	20-17

Coach: *Gary Darnell* ***Colors:*** *Brown & Gold*
Nickname: *Broncos* ***2001 Record:*** *5-6*

William & Mary Williamsburg, VA

A. 31	@INDIANA	
S. 7	@MAINE	42-20
S. 14	Virginia Military	34-0
S. 28	Delaware	21-17
O. 12	@HOFSTRA	28-34
O. 19	@NEW HAMPSHIRE	38-28
O. 26	Northeastern	
N. 2	@VILLANOVA	47-44
N. 9	Rhode Island	31-34
N. 16	@JAMES MADISON	17-10
N. 23	Richmond	23-20

Coach: *Jimmye Laycock* ***Colors:*** *Green & Silver*
Nickname: *Tribe* ***2001 Record:*** *8-4*

Wisconsin Madison, WI

A. 23	Fresno State	20-32
A. 31	@UNLV	
S. 7	West Virginia	
S. 14	Northern Illinois	
S. 21	Arizona	
O. 5	Penn State	18-6
O. 12	@INDIANA	32-63
O. 19	Ohio State	20-17
O. 26	@MICHIGAN STATE	28-42
N. 2	@IOWA	34-28
N. 9	Illinois	35-42
N. 16	@MICHIGAN	17-20
N. 23	Minnesota	31-42

Coach: *Barry Alvarez* ***Colors:*** *Cardinal & White*
Nickname: *Badgers* ***2001 Record:*** *5-7*

Wofford Spartanburg, SC

A. 31	Newberry	
S. 14	@SOUTH CAROLINA STATE	
S. 21	@GEORGIA SOUTHERN	10-48
S. 28	@MARYLAND	
O. 5	Chattanooga	26-29
O. 12	@VIRGINIA MILITARY	59-14
O. 19	Western Carolina	28-31
O. 26	@APPALACHIAN STATE	23-34
N. 2	Citadel	13-0
N. 9	@EAST TENNESSEE STATE	24-3
N. 16	Furman	14-45
N. 23	@ELON	

Coach: *Mike Ayers* ***Colors:*** *Old Gold & Black*
Nickname: *Terriers* ***2001 Record:*** *4-7*

Wyoming Laramie, WY

A. 31	@TENNESSEE+	
S. 7	@CENTRAL MICHIGAN	
S. 14	Boise State	
S. 21	@WASHINGTON	
O. 5	Citadel	
O. 12	@COLORADO STATE	14-42
O. 19	San Diego State	16-38
O. 26	Air Force	13-24
N. 2	@UNLV	26-47
N. 9	@BRIGHAM YOUNG	34-41
N. 16	Utah	0-35
N. 30	@NEW MEXICO	29-30

+ At Nashville, TN

Coach: *Vic Koenning* ***Colors:*** *Brown & Yellow*
Nickname: *Cowboys* ***2001 Record:*** *2-9*

Yale New Haven, CT

S. 21	San Diego	
S. 28	@CORNELL	40-13
O. 5	Holy Cross	23-22
O. 12	@DARTMOUTH	27-32
O. 19	@LEHIGH	
O. 26	Pennsylvania	3-21
N. 2	Columbia	14-28
N. 9	@BROWN	34-37
N. 16	Princeton	14-34
N. 23	@HARVARD	23-35

Coach: *Jack Siedlecki* ***Colors:*** *Yale Blue & White*
Nickname: *Bulldogs* ***2001 Record:*** *3-6*

Youngstown State Youngstown, OH

A. 29	Clarion	44-0
S. 7	McNeese State	
S. 21	@WESTERN KENTUCKY	14-24
S. 28	@SMS	41-20
O. 5	Indiana State	35-21
O. 12	@FLORIDA ATLANTIC	
O. 19	Northern Iowa	11-30
O. 26	@WESTERN ILLINOIS	41-7
N. 2	Southern Illinois	31-7
N. 9	@ILLINOIS STATE	44-30
N. 23	Samford	

Coach: *Jon Heacock* ***Colors:*** *Scarlet & White*
Nickname: *Penguins* ***2001 Record:*** *8-3*

'01 Division I-A NCAA Statistics

DIVISION I-A INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Passing Efficiency *(minimum of 15 attempts per game)*

	YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	PCT	INT	INT %	YDS	YDS/ATT	TD	PCT	RATING
Rex Grossman, Florida	SO	11	395	259	65.57	12	3.04	3896	9.86	34	8.61	170.8
David Carr, Fresno St.	SR	13	476	308	64.71	7	1.47	4299	9.03	42	8.82	166.7
Wes Counts, Middle Tenn. St.	SR	11	259	188	72.59	4	1.54	2327	8.98	17	6.56	166.6
Ryan Dinwiddie, Boise St.	SO	11	322	201	62.42	11	3.42	3043	9.45	29	9.01	164.7
Byron Leftwich, Marshall	JR	12	470	315	67.02	7	1.49	4132	8.79	38	8.09	164.6
Jeff Smoker, Michigan St.	SO	10	230	144	62.61	7	3.04	2203	9.58	18	7.83	162.8
Brandon Doman, Brigham Young	SR	13	408	261	63.97	8	1.96	3542	8.68	33	8.09	159.7
Chris Rix, Florida St.	FR	11	286	165	57.69	13	4.55	2734	9.56	24	8.39	156.6
Jeff Krohn, Arizona St.	SO	10	213	115	53.99	7	3.29	1942	9.12	19	8.92	153.4
Nick Rolovich, Hawaii	SR	10	405	233	57.53	9	2.22	3361	8.30	34	8.40	150.5
Casey Clausen, Tennessee	SO	12	354	227	64.12	9	2.54	2969	8.39	22	6.21	150.0
Darian Durant, North Carolina	FR	12	223	142	63.68	10	4.48	1843	8.26	17	7.62	149.3
Bobby Pesavento, Colorado	SR	9	139	85	61.15	4	2.88	1234	8.88	8	5.76	149.0
Kyle McCann, Iowa	SR	11	226	148	65.49	11	4.87	1867	8.26	16	7.08	148.5
John Welsh, Idaho	SR	9	284	183	64.44	5	1.76	2215	7.80	18	6.34	147.3
Tavares Bolden, Toledo	SR	10	291	200	68.73	5	1.72	2331	8.01	13	4.47	147.3
Ben Roethlisberger, Miami (Ohio)	FR	12	381	241	63.25	13	3.41	3105	8.15	25	6.56	146.5
Rohan Davey, LSU	SR	12	367	217	59.13	10	2.72	3347	9.12	18	4.90	146.5
Ken Dorsey, Miami (Fla.)	JR	11	318	184	57.86	9	2.83	2652	8.34	23	7.23	146.1
Eli Manning, Mississippi	SO	11	408	259	63.48	9	2.21	2948	7.23	31	7.60	144.8
Dave Ragone, Louisville	JR	12	383	231	60.31	7	1.83	3056	7.98	23	6.01	143.5
David Greene, Georgia	FR	11	324	192	59.26	9	2.78	2789	8.61	17	5.25	143.3
George Godsey, Georgia Tech	SR	12	384	249	64.84	11	2.86	3085	8.03	18	4.69	142.1
Jason Gesser, Washington St.	JR	11	335	184	54.93	10	2.99	2729	8.15	25	7.46	142.0
Joey Harrington, Oregon	SR	11	322	186	57.76	5	1.55	2415	7.50	23	7.14	141.2
David Priestley, Pittsburgh	SR	11	280	165	58.93	8	2.86	2128	7.60	18	6.43	138.3

Total Offense

			RUSHING				PASSING		TOTAL OFFENSE				
	YEAR	G	CAR	GAIN	LOSS	NET	ATT	YDS	PLAYS	YDS	YDS/PL	TDR*	YDS/G
Rex Grossman, Florida	SO	11	34	95	87	8	395	3896	429	3904	9.10	34	354.9
Byron Leftwich, Marshall	JR	12	64	241	149	92	470	4132	534	4224	7.91	41	352.0
David Carr, Fresno St.	SR	13	88	259	162	97	476	4299	564	4396	7.79	42	338.2
Nick Rolovich, Hawaii	SR	10	49	157	153	4	405	3361	454	3365	7.41	34	336.5
Luke McCown, Louisiana Tech	SO	11	87	317	173	144	470	3337	557	3481	6.25	28	316.5
Kliff Kingsbury, Texas Tech	JR	11	66	152	200	-48	528	3502	594	3454	5.81	25	314.0
Brandon Doman, Brigham Young	SR	13	142	745	289	456	408	3542	550	3998	7.27	33	307.5
Woodrow Dantzler, Clemson	SR	11	206	1244	240	1004	311	2360	517	3364	6.51	16	305.8
Zak Kustok, Northwestern	SR	11	175	745	165	580	404	2692	579	3272	5.65	20	297.5
Ryan Dinwiddie, Boise St.	SO	11	71	256	159	97	322	3043	393	3140	7.99	28	285.5
Chris Rix, Florida St.	FR	11	99	555	166	389	286	2734	385	3123	8.11	24	283.9
Marquel Blackwell, South Fla.	JR	11	92	347	106	241	456	2882	548	3123	5.70	20	283.9
Rohan Davey, LSU	SR	12	38	136	132	4	367	3347	405	3351	8.27	18	279.3
Casey Bramlet, Wyoming	SO	11	89	213	234	-21	432	3069	521	3048	5.85	9	277.1
Ben Roethlisberger, Miami (Ohio)	FR	12	120	508	319	189	381	3105	501	3294	6.57	25	274.5
Kurt Kittner, Illinois	SR	11	38	83	87	-4	374	2994	412	2990	7.26	23	271.8
Eli Manning, Mississippi	SO	11	34	96	87	9	408	2948	442	2957	6.69	31	268.8
Jose Fuentes, Utah St.	JR	11	49	44	224	-180	437	3100	486	2920	6.01	24	265.5
Ryan Schneider, Central Fla.	SO	11	37	51	95	-44	357	2923	394	2879	7.31	14	261.7
Dave Ragone, Louisville	JR	12	92	360	294	66	383	3056	475	3122	6.57	23	260.2
Jason Gesser, Washington St.	JR	11	82	346	243	103	335	2729	417	2832	6.79	25	257.5
David Greene, Georgia	FR	11	47	142	101	41	324	2789	371	2830	7.63	18	257.3
Tavares Bolden, Toledo	SR	10	62	322	86	236	291	2331	353	2567	7.27	14	256.7
Patrick Ramsey, Tulane	SR	11	45	53	168	-115	449	2935	494	2820	5.71	22	256.4
George Godsey, Georgia Tech	SR	12	66	133	178	-45	384	3085	450	3040	6.76	18	253.3
Gino Guidugli, Cincinnati	FR	10	47	110	185	-75	317	2573	364	2498	6.86	17	249.8

**Touchdowns responsible for: TDs scored or passed for*

All-Purpose Running

	YEAR	G	RUSH	REC	PR	KOR	YDS	YDS/G	PLAYS	YDS/PL
Levron Williams, Indiana	SR	11	1401	289	0	511	2201	200.09	259	8.50
Bernard Berrian, Fresno St.	JR	13	101	1270	552	668	2591	199.31	148	17.51
Mewelde Moore, Tulane	SO	12	1421	756	0	82	2259	188.25	333	6.78
Luke Staley, Brigham Young	JR	11	1582	334	0	102	2018	183.45	231	8.74
Emmett White, Utah St.	SR	11	1361	408	125	120	2014	183.09	320	6.29
William Green, Boston College	JR	10	1559	260	0	0	1819	181.90	288	6.32
Chris Douglas, Duke	SO	11	841	233	0	775	1849	168.09	281	6.58
Chance Kretschmer, Nevada	FR	11	1732	55	0	0	1787	162.45	312	5.73
Brock Forsey, Boise St.	JR	12	1207	369	0	362	1938	161.50	298	6.50
Bruce Perry, Maryland	SO	11	1242	359	0	117	1718	156.18	265	6.48
Josh Reed, LSU	JR	12	7	1740	5	108	1860	155.00	103	18.06
Derek Abney, Kentucky	SO	11	0	741	212	739	1692	153.82	121	13.98
Larry Ned, San Diego St.	SR	11	1549	138	0	0	1687	153.36	327	5.16
Tellis Redmon, Minnesota	JR	11	1091	83	202	308	1684	153.09	235	7.17
Kelly Campbell, Georgia Tech	SR	9	12	708	0	651	1371	152.33	88	15.58
Chester Taylor, Toledo	JR	11	1430	242	0	0	1672	152.00	294	5.69
Leonard Henry, East Carolina	SR	11	1432	210	0	0	1642	149.27	210	7.82
Chris Lacy, Idaho	SR	11	27	1045	0	530	1602	145.64	91	17.60
Ashley Lelie, Hawaii	JR	12	0	1713	0	0	1713	142.75	84	20.39
Kevin Curtis, Utah St.	JR	11	25	1531	0	0	1556	141.45	103	15.11
Travis Stephens, Tennessee	SR	12	1464	169	0	0	1633	136.08	310	5.27
Dameon Hunter, Utah	SR	11	1396	70	0	0	1466	133.27	263	5.57
Anthony Davis, Wisconsin	FR	11	1466	0	0	0	1466	133.27	291	5.04

Receptions Per Game

	YEAR	G	CT	YDS	TD	CT/G
Kevin Curtis, Utah St.	JR	11	100	1531	10	9.09
Ricky Williams, Texas Tech	SR	11	92	617	4	8.36
Josh Reed, LSU	JR	12	94	1740	7	7.83
Darius Watts, Marshall	SO	12	91	1417	18	7.58
Don Shoals, Tulsa	SR	10	75	908	4	7.50
Marquise Walker, Michigan	SR	11	81	1043	11	7.36
Rashaun Woods, Oklahoma St.	SO	11	80	1023	10	7.27
Ryan McGuffey, Wyoming	SO	9	65	751	1	7.22
Reno Mahe, Brigham Young	JR	13	91	1211	9	7.00
Rodney Wright, Fresno St.	SR	13	91	1331	10	7.00
Ashley Lelie, Hawaii	JR	12	84	1713	19	7.00
Edell Shepherd, San Jose St.	SR	12	83	1500	14	6.92
Billy McMullen, Virginia	JR	12	83	1060	12	6.92
Justin Gage, Missouri	JR	11	74	920	5	6.73
Delwyn Daigre, Louisiana Tech	SR	9	60	770	6	6.67
LaDaris Vann, Cincinnati	JR	11	73	902	3	6.64
Josh Davis, Marshall	SO	12	79	961	5	6.58

Interceptions

	YEAR	G	NO	YDS	TD	I/G
Edward Reed, Miami (Fla.)	SR	11	9	206	2	.82
Lamont Thompson, Washington St.	SR	11	8	96	1	.73
Kevin Thomas, UNLV	SR	11	7	213	3	.64
Derek Ross, Ohio St.	SR	11	7	194	1	.64
Nathan Vasher, Texas	SO	12	7	17	0	.58
Jonas Buckles, North Texas	SO	9	5	9	0	.56
Eugene Wilson, Illinois	JR	11	6	29	0	.55
Tony Jackson, Maryland	SR	11	6	6	0	.55
Stuart Schweigert, Purdue	SO	11	6	110	0	.55

Scoring

	YEAR	G	TD	XP	FG	PTS	PT/G
Luke Staley, Brigham Young	JR	11	28	0	0	170	15.45
Dwone Hicks, Middle Tenn. St.	JR	11	24	0	0	148	13.45
Chester Taylor, Toledo	JR	11	23	0	0	138	12.55
Todd Sievers, Miami (Fla.)	JR	11	0	56	21	119	10.82
Levron Williams, Indiana	SR	11	19	0	0	114	10.36
Jeff Chandler, Florida	SR	10	0	46	19	103	10.30
William Green, Boston College	JR	10	17	0	0	102	10.20
Leonard Henry, East Caro.	SR	11	18	0	0	108	9.82
Ricky Williams, Texas Tech	SR	11	18	0	0	108	9.82
Eric Crouch, Nebraska	SR	12	19	0	0	116	9.67
Asen Asparuhov, Fresno St.	JR	13	0	55	23	124	9.54
Ashley Lelie, Hawaii	JR	12	19	0	0	114	9.50
LaBrandon Toefield, LSU	SO	12	19	0	0	114	9.50
Tim Duncan, Oklahoma	SR	12	1	45	20	111	9.25
Justin Ayat, Hawaii	FR	12	0	54	19	111	9.25
Darius Watts, Marshall	SO	12	18	0	0	110	9.17
Keith Boyea, Air Force	SR	12	18	0	0	110	9.17
Josh Scobee, Louisiana Tech	SO	11	0	44	18	98	8.91
Emmett White, Utah St.	SR	11	16	0	0	96	8.73
Jeremy Flores, Colorado	SR	11	0	40	18	94	8.55
Dusty Mangum, Texas	FR	12	0	54	16	102	8.50
Matt Payne, Brigham Young	FR	13	0	73	12	109	8.38

Rushing

	YEAR	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Chance Kretschmer, Nevada	FR	11	302	1732	5.74	15	157.45
William Green, Boston College	JR	10	265	1559	5.88	15	155.90
Luke Staley, Brigham Young	JR	11	196	1582	8.07	24	143.82
Larry Ned, San Diego St.	SR	11	311	1549	4.98	15	140.82
Anthony Davis, Wisconsin	FR	11	291	1466	5.04	11	133.27
Leonard Henry, East Caro.	SR	11	184	1432	7.78	16	130.18
Chester Taylor, Toledo	JR	11	268	1430	5.34	20	130.00
Levron Williams, Indiana	SR	11	212	1401	6.61	17	127.36
Dameon Hunter, Utah	SR	11	257	1396	5.43	9	126.91
Marcus Merriweather, Ball St.	SR	10	268	1244	4.64	12	124.40
Emmett White, Utah St.	SR	11	250	1361	5.44	13	123.73
Travis Stephens, Tennessee	SR	12	291	1464	5.03	10	122.00
Mewelde Moore, Tulane	SO	12	263	1421	5.40	8	118.42
Dahrran Diedrick, Nebraska	JR	11	233	1299	5.58	15	118.09
Avon Cobourne, West Virginia	JR	11	267	1298	4.86	9	118.00
Josh Scobey, Kansas St.	SR	11	240	1263	5.26	15	114.82
Jonathan Wells, Ohio St.	SR	11	232	1257	5.42	15	114.27
Brian Madden, Navy	SR	8	217	905	4.17	8	113.13
Bruce Perry, Maryland	SO	11	219	1242	5.67	10	112.91
T.J. Duckett, Michigan St.	JR	11	236	1236	5.24	10	112.36
Clarence Farmer, Arizona	SO	11	209	1229	5.88	10	111.73
Clinton Portis, Miami (Fla.)	JR	11	220	1200	5.45	10	109.09
Terrence Jackson, Central Mich.	SO	11	251	1190	4.74	10	108.18
Ennis Haywood, Iowa St.	SR	11	258	1169	4.53	14	106.27

Standings and statistics courtesy of the NCAA

I-A INDIVIDUAL

Punt Returns *(minimum 1.2 returns per game)*

	YEAR	NO	YDS	TD	AVG
Roman Hollowell, Colorado	SR	29	522	2	18.00
Luke Powell, Stanford	JR	19	304	0	16.00
DeAndrew Rubin, South Fla.	JR	26	406	1	15.62
Ronnie Hamilton, Duke	SR	20	311	1	15.55
Dexter Wynn, Colorado St.	SO	14	214	0	15.29
Nathan Vasher, Texas	SO	37	554	1	14.97
Phillip Buchanon, Miami (Fla.)	JR	31	464	2	14.97
Keenan Howry, Oregon	JR	32	465	2	14.53
DeJuan Groce, Nebraska	JR	33	469	1	14.21
Bernard Berrian, Fresno St.	JR	39	552	1	14.15
Domanick Davis, LSU	JR	19	263	1	13.84
T.D. Bryant, Oklahoma St.	JR	22	296	0	13.45
Jahmal Fenner, UTEP	FR	18	237	0	13.17
Jamel Riddle, Syracuse	SO	22	288	1	13.09
Troy Mason, UNLV	JR	21	271	1	12.90
Dannye Fowler, Southern Miss.	SR	11	138	0	12.55
Damien Gary, Georgia	SO	23	288	1	12.52
Andre Davis, Virginia Tech	SR	35	437	1	12.49
Dawon Gentry, Texas A&M	FR	16	199	0	12.44
Donta Greene, Toledo	JR	20	248	1	12.40

Punting *(minimum 3.6 punts per game)*

	YEAR	G	NO	YDS	AVG
Travis Dorsch, Purdue	SR	11	49	2370	48.37
Dave Zastudil, Ohio	SR	11	50	2280	45.60
Andy Groom, Ohio St.	SR	11	44	1981	45.02
Steve Mullins, Utah St.	JR	11	50	2241	44.82
John Skaggs, Navy	SO	10	48	2151	44.81
Glenn Pakulak, Kentucky	JR	11	56	2492	44.50
Brooks Barnard, Maryland	JR	11	54	2401	44.46
Dan MacElroy, Army	SR	11	51	2264	44.39
Curtis Head, Marshall	JR	12	45	1996	44.36
Nate Fikse, UCLA	JR	11	53	2342	44.19
Adam Stiles, Baylor	SR	11	70	3088	44.11
Jarad Preston, East Caro.	JR	11	45	1983	44.07
Damon Duval, Auburn	JR	11	51	2244	44.00
Jeff Ferguson, Oklahoma	SR	12	71	3124	44.00
Jonathan Kilgo, Georgia	JR	11	42	1838	43.76
Adam Wulfeck, Cincinnati	SR	11	64	2800	43.75
Tony Yelk, Iowa St.	FR	11	44	1925	43.75
Jason Simpson, Fresno St.	JR	13	60	2620	43.67

Field Goals

	YEAR	G	FGA	FG	PCT	FG/G
Todd Sievers, Miami (Fla.)	JR	11	26	21	.808	1.91
Jeff Chandler, Florida	SR	10	22	19	.864	1.90
Steve Azar, Northern Ill.	SO	11	26	20	.769	1.82
Jarvis Wallum, Wyoming	JR	11	23	20	.870	1.82
Travis Dorsch, Purdue	SR	11	25	20	.800	1.82
Asen Asparuhov, Fresno St.	JR	13	30	23	.767	1.77
Tim Duncan, Oklahoma	SR	12	28	20	.714	1.67
Jeremy Flores, Colorado	SR	11	24	18	.750	1.64
Josh Scobee, Louisiana Tech	SO	11	22	18	.818	1.64
Luke Manget, Georgia Tech	JR	12	28	19	.679	1.58
Justin Ayat, Hawaii	FR	12	29	19	.655	1.58
Billy Bennett, Georgia	SO	11	25	17	.680	1.55
Vladimir Borombozin, New Mexico	SR	11	18	17	.944	1.55
David Hills, Navy	SR	10	16	15	.938	1.50
Damon Duval, Auburn	JR	11	26	16	.615	1.45
Nick Novak, Maryland	FR	11	25	16	.640	1.45
Zac Derr, Akron	SR	11	18	15	.833	1.36

Kickoff Returns *(minimum 1.2 returns per game)*

	YEAR	NO	YDS	TD	AVG
Chris Massey, Oklahoma St.	JR	15	522	1	34.80
Chad Owens, Hawaii	FR	24	807	2	33.63
Derrick Hamilton, Clemson	FR	15	476	1	31.73
Tom Pace, Arizona St.	SR	17	537	1	31.59
Corey Parchman, Ball St.	SR	15	465	2	31.00
Roc Alexander, Washington	SO	19	555	1	29.21
David Mikell, Boise St.	SO	25	709	1	28.36
Aaron Lockett, Kansas St.	SR	14	397	1	28.36
Herb Haygood, Michigan St.	SR	19	524	2	27.58
Jason Armstead, Mississippi	JR	19	524	1	27.58
Pete Rebstock, Colorado St.	SR	18	496	0	27.56
Ivory McCann, Texas Tech	FR	22	606	1	27.55
Allan Amundson, Oregon	JR	13	354	0	27.23
Josh Davis, Nebraska	SO	25	675	0	27.00
Fred Gibson, Georgia	FR	14	375	0	26.79
John Stone, Wake Forest	SR	22	588	1	26.73
Larry Johnson, Penn St.	JR	17	454	1	26.71

DIVISION I-A TEAM LEADERS

Rushing Offense

	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Nebraska	12	672	3776	5.62	47	314.67
Rice	12	751	3378	4.50	30	281.50
Air Force	12	677	3279	4.84	36	273.25
Indiana	11	541	2964	5.48	33	269.45
Kansas St.	11	606	2835	4.68	34	257.73
Ohio	11	567	2641	4.66	20	240.09
Middle Tenn. St.	11	471	2615	5.55	32	237.73
Colorado	12	575	2742	4.77	27	228.50
Alabama	11	472	2490	5.28	19	226.36
Wake Forest	11	609	2438	4.00	27	221.64
Maryland	11	526	2428	4.62	33	220.73
Utah	11	505	2408	4.77	23	218.91
Brigham Young	13	505	2832	5.61	41	217.85
Minnesota	11	465	2389	5.14	20	217.18
Kent St.	11	445	2375	5.34	17	215.91
UNLV	11	507	2361	4.66	19	214.64
Toledo	11	495	2348	4.74	30	213.45
Boston College	11	451	2290	5.08	16	208.18
New Mexico St.	12	551	2493	4.52	27	207.75
Nevada	11	474	2266	4.78	20	206.00

Rushing Defense

	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
UAB	11	333	630	1.89	6	57.3
Virginia Tech	11	371	788	2.12	7	71.6
Tennessee	12	384	1024	2.67	8	85.3
Bowling Green	11	372	949	2.55	5	86.3
New Mexico	11	383	961	2.51	9	87.4
Texas	12	385	1074	2.79	13	89.5
Oklahoma	12	430	1079	2.51	5	89.9
Michigan	11	391	996	2.55	9	90.5
Maryland	11	387	997	2.58	5	90.6
TCU	11	376	1032	2.74	12	93.8
Kansas St.	11	364	1061	2.91	6	96.5
Florida	11	347	1101	3.17	14	100.1
Southern Miss.	11	380	1117	2.94	11	101.5
Toledo	11	385	1162	3.02	13	105.6
Georgia	11	386	1197	3.10	9	108.8
Alabama	11	382	1198	3.14	15	108.9
Stanford	11	342	1206	3.53	12	109.6
Fresno St.	13	467	1430	3.06	12	110.0

Total Offense

	G	PLAYS	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Brigham Young	13	991	7057	7.12	82	542.85
Florida	11	788	5803	7.36	61	527.55
Marshall	12	880	6060	6.89	61	505.00
Fresno St.	13	983	6464	6.58	65	497.23
Middle Tenn. St.	11	781	5296	6.78	56	481.45
Idaho	11	872	5113	5.86	42	464.82
Hawaii	12	855	5552	6.49	61	462.67
Miami (Fla.)	11	762	5003	6.57	59	454.82
Nevada	11	871	4993	5.73	35	453.91
Stanford	11	840	4967	5.91	54	451.55
LSU	12	862	5418	6.29	47	451.50
Nebraska	12	871	5414	6.22	60	451.17
Toledo	11	822	4889	5.95	50	444.45
Boise St.	12	862	5333	6.19	57	444.42
Northwestern	11	942	4872	5.17	43	442.91
Maryland	11	872	4837	5.55	49	439.73
Washington St.	11	837	4825	5.76	50	438.64

Total Defense

	G	PLAYS	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Texas	12	754	2834	3.76	22	236.17
Virginia Tech	11	725	2617	3.61	17	237.91
Kansas St.	11	684	2886	4.22	21	262.36
Oklahoma	12	813	3154	3.88	18	262.83
UAB	11	719	2925	4.07	24	265.91
Miami (Fla.)	11	758	2980	3.93	14	270.91
Pittsburgh	11	786	3131	3.98	29	284.64
Nebraska	12	813	3446	4.24	24	287.17
Florida	11	712	3192	4.48	19	290.18
Texas A&M	11	798	3234	4.05	24	294.00
Southern Miss.	11	753	3314	4.40	21	301.27
Michigan	11	775	3318	4.28	22	301.64
Tennessee	12	778	3643	4.68	27	303.58
Notre Dame	11	690	3354	4.86	25	304.91
North Carolina	12	835	3664	4.39	30	305.33
Central Fla.	11	729	3381	4.64	23	307.36
Utah	11	719	3390	4.71	26	308.18

Turnover Margin

	FUM	INT	GAINED	FUM	INT	LOST	MARGIN/G
	GAINED			LOST			
Miami (Fla.)	18	27	45	10	9	19	2.36
Fresno St.	13	23	36	5	8	13	1.77
Bowling Green	17	18	35	5	13	18	1.55
Maryland	10	24	34	9	9	18	1.45
Oregon	7	18	25	6	5	11	1.27
Southern California	14	19	33	7	12	19	1.27
Syracuse	17	13	30	7	8	15	1.25
Iowa St.	8	18	26	2	12	14	1.09
Purdue	18	18	36	11	13	24	1.09
Ohio St.	10	19	29	8	10	18	1.00
Washington St.	13	22	35	12	12	24	1.00
Texas	13	15	28	5	12	17	0.92
North Carolina St.	16	7	23	6	7	13	0.91
Virginia Tech	15	19	34	12	12	24	0.91
Oklahoma	13	20	33	7	16	23	0.83
Texas Tech	7	18	25	5	11	16	0.82
Hawaii	21	14	35	10	16	26	0.75
Air Force	14	14	28	10	10	20	0.67
Rice	10	12	22	8	6	14	0.67

Passing Offense

	G	ATT	CMP	INT	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Florida	11	464	299	13	64.44	4457	9.61	43	405.2
Hawaii	12	570	327	16	57.37	4576	8.03	41	381.3
Marshall	12	477	319	7	66.88	4201	8.81	40	350.1
Idaho	11	497	309	15	62.17	3826	7.70	28	347.8
Texas Tech	11	569	390	11	68.54	3710	6.52	27	337.3
Fresno St.	13	483	311	8	64.39	4336	8.98	42	333.5
Brigham Young	13	486	315	9	64.81	4225	8.69	39	325.0
Louisiana Tech	11	482	283	14	58.71	3443	7.14	30	313.0
Central Fla.	11	407	230	12	56.51	3391	8.33	21	308.3
Washington St.	11	393	214	12	54.45	3310	8.42	30	300.9
LSU	12	411	238	12	57.91	3578	8.71	18	298.2
Tulane	12	512	294	14	57.42	3498	6.83	27	291.5
Utah St.	11	459	270	21	58.82	3168	6.90	25	288.0
Michigan St.	11	355	208	10	58.59	3134	8.83	24	284.9
Wyoming	11	438	228	20	52.05	3106	7.09	9	282.4
Washington	11	389	214	16	55.01	3074	7.90	15	279.5
Georgia Tech	12	413	264	14	63.92	3347	8.10	19	278.9
San Jose St.	12	437	240	23	54.92	3324	7.61	22	277.0

Passing-Efficiency Defense

	G	ATT	COMP	PCT	INT	PCT	YDS	YDS/ATT	TD	PCT	RATING
Miami (Fla.)	11	290	129	44.48	27	9.31	1520	5.24	5	1.72	75.60
Nebraska	12	395	171	43.29	19	4.81	2043	5.17	8	2.03	83.81
Virginia Tech	11	354	161	45.48	19	5.37	1829	5.17	8	2.26	85.62
Texas	12	369	187	50.68	15	4.07	1760	4.77	6	1.63	88.00
Oklahoma	12	383	177	46.21	20	5.22	2075	5.42	9	2.35	89.02
Kansas St.	11	320	152	47.50	18	5.63	1825	5.70	11	3.44	95.50
North Carolina	12	403	203	50.37	8	1.99	2166	5.37	9	2.23	98.95
West Virginia	11	251	122	48.61	11	4.38	1504	5.99	7	2.79	99.37
Texas A&M	11	369	206	55.83	14	3.79	1987	5.38	7	1.90	99.70
Boston College	11	313	154	49.20	18	5.75	1911	6.11	11	3.51	100.58
UNLV	11	381	191	50.13	11	2.89	2083	5.47	12	3.15	100.64
Southern Miss.	11	373	194	52.01	14	3.75	2197	5.89	8	2.14	101.05
Florida	11	365	201	55.07	12	3.29	2091	5.73	5	1.37	101.17
UCLA	11	349	165	47.28	16	4.58	2188	6.27	12	3.44	102.14
Illinois	11	396	193	48.74	18	4.55	2363	5.97	16	4.04	103.07
Pittsburgh	11	342	181	52.92	6	1.75	1824	5.33	10	2.92	103.84
Utah	11	351	173	49.29	10	2.85	2094	5.97	12	3.42	105.00

Scoring Offense

	G	PTS	AVG	TD
Brigham Young	13	608	46.8	82
Florida	11	482	43.8	61
Miami (Fla.)	11	475	43.2	59
Fresno St.	13	525	40.4	65
Hawaii	12	483	40.3	61
Texas	12	470	39.2	60
Nebraska	12	449	37.4	60
Marshall	12	448	37.3	61
Middle Tenn. St.	11	408	37.1	56
Stanford	11	408	37.1	54
Mississippi	11	391	35.6	55
Maryland	11	390	35.5	49
South Fla.	11	387	35.2	55
Washington St.	11	387	35.2	50
Texas Tech	11	386	35.1	50
Toledo	11	384	34.9	50
Louisiana Tech	11	382	34.7	47

Scoring Defense

	G	PTS	AVG	TD
Miami (Fla.)	11	103	9.4	14
Virginia Tech	11	147	13.4	17
Texas	12	164	13.7	22
Oklahoma	12	166	13.8	18
Florida	11	155	14.1	19
Nebraska	12	189	15.8	24
Kansas St.	11	179	16.3	21
Southern Miss.	11	186	16.9	21
Michigan	11	192	17.5	22
Louisville	12	213	17.8	26
Southern California	11	197	17.9	23
South Carolina	11	202	18.4	24
Central Fla.	11	204	18.5	23
Utah	11	204	18.5	26
Texas A&M	11	204	18.5	24
UAB	11	206	18.7	24
Georgia	11	208	18.9	26

'01 Division I-AA NCAA Statistics

DIVISION I-AA INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Passing Efficiency *(minimum of 15 attempts per game)*

	YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	PCT	INT	INT %	YDS	YDS/ATT	TD	PCT	RATING
Tony Romo, Eastern Ill.	JR	10	207	138	66.67	6	2.90	2068	9.99	21	10.14	178.3
Rocky Butler, Hofstra	SR	11	335	206	61.49	4	1.19	3311	9.88	30	8.96	171.7
Brant Hall, Lehigh	SR	8	176	106	60.23	3	1.70	1684	9.57	16	9.09	167.2
Neil Rose, Harvard	SR	8	198	127	64.14	5	2.53	1830	9.24	15	7.58	161.7
Darnell Kennedy, Alabama St.	SR	12	347	202	58.21	12	3.46	3158	9.10	33	9.51	159.1
Grant Swallows, Tennessee Tech	SR	10	253	161	63.64	11	4.35	2361	9.33	19	7.51	158.1
Josh McCown, Sam Houston St.	SR	11	341	210	61.58	8	2.35	2884	8.46	29	8.50	156.0
Dave Corley, William & Mary	JR	11	283	167	59.01	9	3.18	2584	9.13	19	6.71	151.5
Justin Holtfreter, Sacred Heart	SR	10	272	153	56.25	8	2.94	2371	8.72	23	8.46	151.5
Juston Wood, Portland St.	JR	11	366	218	59.56	5	1.37	3200	8.74	23	6.28	151.0
Brett Gordon, Villanova	JR	11	382	262	68.59	13	3.40	3017	7.90	25	6.54	149.7
Mark Carney, Fordham	SR	11	344	213	61.92	11	3.20	2700	7.85	27	7.85	147.4
Marcus Brady, Cal St. Northridge	SR	10	428	257	60.05	11	2.57	3355	7.84	34	7.94	147.0
Fred Salanoa, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	379	228	60.16	13	3.43	3057	8.07	26	6.86	143.7
Tim Levcik, Robert Morris	SR	9	267	152	56.93	10	3.75	2110	7.90	22	8.24	143.0
Sam Clemons, Western Ill.	SR	10	302	170	56.29	11	3.64	2615	8.66	19	6.29	142.5
Tom McCune, Colgate	JR	9	237	144	60.76	8	3.38	1965	8.29	13	5.49	141.8
Billy Napier, Furman	JR	11	207	129	62.32	9	4.35	1772	8.56	10	4.83	141.5
Preston Parsons, Northern Ariz.	SR	11	296	171	57.77	3	1.01	2267	7.66	19	6.42	141.3
Shannon Harris, Tennessee St.	SR	11	382	211	55.24	6	1.57	3008	7.87	26	6.81	140.7
Jake Eaton, Maine	JR	10	281	162	57.65	7	2.49	2198	7.82	19	6.76	140.7
Wes Pate, Stephen F. Austin	SR	10	334	198	59.28	8	2.40	2642	7.91	19	5.69	139.7
Brian Baker, Austin Peay	SR	9	239	148	61.92	13	5.44	1881	7.87	16	6.69	139.2
Eric Rasmussen, San Diego	SO	9	254	147	57.87	9	3.54	2035	8.01	15	5.91	137.6
Kyle Rowley, Brown	SR	9	307	191	62.21	10	3.26	2353	7.66	16	5.21	137.3

Total Offense

		RUSHING					PASSING		TOTAL OFFENSE				
	YEAR	G	CAR	GAIN	LOSS	NET	ATT	YDS	PLAYS	YDS	YDS/PL	TDR*	YDS/G
Marcus Brady, Cal St. Northridge	SR	10	104	547	270	277	428	3355	532	3632	6.83	34	363.2
Robert Kent, Jackson St.	SO	11	131	529	359	170	453	3615	584	3785	6.48	31	344.1
Rocky Butler, Hofstra	SR	11	115	643	190	453	335	3311	450	3764	8.36	31	342.2
Darnell Kennedy, Alabama St.	SR	12	97	595	84	511	347	3158	444	3669	8.26	33	305.8
Josh McCown, Sam Houston St.	SR	11	90	452	98	354	341	2884	431	3238	7.51	32	294.4
Juston Wood, Portland St.	JR	11	57	235	224	11	366	3200	423	3211	7.59	33	291.9
Fred Salanoa, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	35	153	53	100	379	3057	414	3157	7.63	26	287.0
Shannon Harris, Tennessee St.	SR	11	63	295	166	129	382	3008	445	3137	7.05	26	285.2
Ryan Day, New Hampshire	SR	11	138	654	174	480	379	2605	517	3085	5.97	16	280.5
Sam Clemons, Western Ill.	SR	10	86	319	181	138	302	2615	388	2753	7.10	19	275.3
Quinn Gray, Florida A&M	SR	10	78	345	147	198	380	2498	458	2696	5.89	19	269.6
Wes Pate, Stephen F. Austin	SR	10	100	321	273	48	334	2642	434	2690	6.20	18	269.0
Ryan Leadingham, Cal St. Northridge	FR	11	83	377	174	203	393	2753	476	2956	6.21	17	268.7
Brett Gordon, Villanova	JR	11	30	33	132	-99	382	3017	412	2918	7.08	25	265.3
Marko Glavic, Lafayette	SO	10	56	257	76	181	373	2460	429	2641	6.16	9	264.1
Dave Corley, William & Mary	JR	11	108	529	214	315	283	2584	391	2899	7.41	22	263.5
Brant Hall, Lehigh	SR	8	87	494	84	410	176	1684	263	2094	7.96	16	261.8
Kyle Rowley, Brown	SR	9	53	141	143	-2	307	2353	360	2351	6.53	16	261.2
Tyler Gladwell, Weber St.	JR	10	50	95	222	-127	362	2733	412	2606	6.33	22	260.6
Neil Rose, Harvard	SR	8	67	312	66	246	198	1830	265	2076	7.83	15	259.5
Ricky Rahne, Cornell	SR	9	102	407	136	271	355	1984	457	2255	4.93	11	250.6
Mark Carney, Fordham	SR	11	57	148	106	42	344	2700	401	2742	6.84	27	249.3
Ira Vandever, Drake	JR	9	116	693	150	543	226	1667	342	2210	6.46	13	245.6
Todd Wenrich, Bucknell	JR	10	71	318	202	116	384	2327	455	2443	5.37	12	244.3
Grant Swallows, Tennessee Tech	SR	10	41	165	92	73	253	2361	294	2434	8.28	19	243.4

**Touchdowns responsible for: TDs scored or passed for*

All-Purpose Running

	YEAR	G	RUSH	REC	PR	KOR	YDS	YDS/G	PLAYS	YDS/PL
Brian Westbrook, Villanova	SR	11	1603	658	122	440	2823	256.64	333	8.48
Jesse Chatman, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	2096	424	0	0	2520	229.09	323	7.80
Stephan Lewis, New Hampshire	JR	11	1390	527	0	471	2388	217.09	323	7.39
Johnnie Gray, Weber St.	SR	11	1571	446	0	369	2386	216.91	367	6.50
Curtis Cooper, Southeast Mo. St.	SR	11	1198	319	215	395	2127	193.36	301	7.07
Drew Amerson, Cal St. Northridge	JR	10	152	1244	112	406	1914	191.40	146	13.11
Ryan Fuqua, Portland St.	FR	11	1586	97	0	310	1993	181.18	231	8.63
L.J. McKanas, Northeastern	SR	11	1756	114	0	20	1890	171.82	361	5.24
Yohance Humphery, Montana	SR	12	1658	398	0	0	2056	171.33	343	5.99
Marcus King, Northern Ariz.	SR	10	1287	105	2	302	1696	169.60	251	6.76
Andre Raymond, Eastern Ill.	SO	9	717	309	0	477	1503	167.00	148	10.16
Javarus Dudley, Fordham	SO	11	7	1061	23	736	1827	166.09	104	17.57
Kris Ryan, Pennsylvania	SR	9	1304	177	0	0	1481	164.56	283	5.23
Rich Musinski, William & Mary	SO	11	54	1242	290	224	1810	164.55	89	20.34
Ryan Johnson, Montana St.	JR	11	1537	201	0	21	1759	159.91	322	5.46
Toby Moeves, Morehead St.	SR	11	4	814	343	522	1683	153.00	82	20.52
C.J. Hudson, Eastern Ky.	FR	9	1221	138	12	0	1371	152.33	233	5.88
Terrell Adams, Mississippi Valley	SR	11	10	616	159	889	1674	152.18	117	14.31
Aryvia Holmes, Samford	JR	10	9	1042	127	321	1499	149.90	103	14.55
P.J. Mays, Youngstown St.	JR	11	1446	142	0	23	1611	146.45	239	6.74
Chas Gessner, Brown	JR	9	31	1182	100	0	1313	145.89	99	13.26
Rondy Rogers, Jacksonville St.	JR	11	1417	186	0	0	1603	145.73	227	7.06
Mike Farrell, Austin Peay	SR	9	20	846	121	311	1298	144.22	94	13.81
Louis Ivory, Furman	SR	11	1492	80	0	0	1572	142.91	263	5.98
Josh Snyder, Lehigh	SR	10	0	1241	174	0	1415	141.50	91	15.55

Receptions Per Game

	YEAR	G	CT	YDS	TD	CT/G
Drew Amerson, Cal St. Northridge	JR	10	97	1244	5	9.70
Chas Gessner, Brown	JR	9	83	1182	12	9.22
Carl Morris, Harvard	JR	9	71	943	12	7.89
Billy Brown, Yale	SR	9	71	946	6	7.89
T.C. Taylor, Jackson St.	SR	11	84	1234	11	7.64
Josh Snyder, Lehigh	SR	10	74	1241	12	7.40
Aryvia Holmes, Samford	JR	10	74	1042	8	7.40
Jonathon Cooper, Sam Houston St.	SR	11	78	1301	17	7.09
Jim Horan, Bucknell	JR	9	59	714	3	6.56
Terry Charles, Portland St.	SR	11	71	1096	12	6.45
Kahmal Roy, Hofstra	SR	11	70	1221	15	6.36
Willie Ponder, Southeast Mo. St.	JR	11	70	1090	11	6.36
Etu Molden, Montana	SR	12	76	1145	14	6.33
Rob Milanese, Pennsylvania	SR	9	57	659	3	6.33
Devin Lewis, Southern U.	SR	11	69	1052	8	6.27
Javarus Dudley, Fordham	SO	11	69	1061	9	6.27

Interceptions

	YEAR	G	NO	YDS	TD	I/G
Jon Ambrose, St. Peter's	JR	11	11	222	2	1.00
Mark Kasmer, Dayton	JR	10	9	212	3	.90
Leigh Bodden, Duquesne	JR	10	9	51	1	.90
Jamar Williams, Morgan St.	JR	11	8	-4	1	.73
Tony Tiller, East Tenn. St.	SO	11	7	102	0	.64
Terrence Arnold, Southern U.	SR	11	7	50	0	.64
Chuck Wesley, Rhode Island	SR	11	7	138	1	.64
Art Smith, Northeastern	JR	11	7	143	1	.64
LeVar Greene, Youngstown St.	SR	11	7	73	1	.64

Scoring

	YEAR	G	TD	XP	FG	PTS	PT/G
Brian Westbrook, Villanova	SR	11	29	0	0	176	16.00
Jesse Chatman, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	28	0	0	172	15.64
J.R. Taylor, Eastern Ill.	JR	10	20	0	0	120	12.00
P.J. Mays, Youngstown St.	JR	11	22	0	0	132	12.00
Stephan Lewis, New Hampshire	JR	11	19	0	0	120	10.91
Kris Ryan, Pennsylvania	SR	9	16	0	0	96	10.67
Louis Ivory, Furman	SR	11	19	0	0	114	10.36
Mike Malan, Brown	SR	9	15	0	0	90	10.00
Adrian Peterson, Ga. Southern	SR	11	18	0	0	110	10.00
Johnnie Gray, Weber St.	SR	11	18	0	0	110	10.00
Yohance Humphery, Montana	SR	12	19	0	0	116	9.67
Marvin Royal, Sacred Heart	SR	10	16	0	0	96	9.60
Jonathon Cooper, Sam Houston St.	SR	11	17	0	0	102	9.27
Josh Rue, Duquesne	JR	10	15	0	0	90	9.00
Ryan Fuqua, Portland St.	FR	11	16	0	0	96	8.73
C.J. Hudson, Eastern Ky.	FR	9	13	0	0	78	8.67
Jay Schulze, Yale	JR	7	10	0	0	60	8.57
Troy Griggs, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	0	51	14	93	8.45
Brian Morgan, Grambling	FR	11	0	39	18	93	8.45
Matt Merklinger, Monmouth	SR	10	14	0	0	84	8.40
J.R. Revere, Ga. Southern	SR	10	14	0	0	84	8.40
Chas Gessner, Brown	JR	9	12	0	0	74	8.22

Rushing

	YEAR	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Jesse Chatman, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	285	2096	7.35	24	190.55
L.J. McKanas, Northeastern	SR	11	342	1756	5.13	14	159.64
Brian Westbrook, Villanova	SR	11	249	1603	6.44	22	145.73
Kris Ryan, Pennsylvania	SR	9	267	1304	4.88	15	144.89
Ryan Fuqua, Portland St.	FR	11	210	1586	7.55	15	144.18
Johnnie Gray, Weber St.	SR	11	305	1571	5.15	15	142.82
Ryan Johnson, Montana St.	JR	11	303	1537	5.07	14	139.73
Yohance Humphery, Montana	SR	12	303	1658	5.47	17	138.17
C.J. Hudson, Eastern Ky.	FR	9	217	1221	5.63	12	135.67
Louis Ivory, Furman	SR	11	251	1492	5.94	19	135.64
Adrian Peterson, Ga. Southern	SR	11	261	1459	5.59	18	132.64
P.J. Mays, Youngstown St.	JR	11	227	1446	6.37	21	131.45
Sam Dorsett, Robert Morris	JR	9	195	1166	5.98	10	129.56
Rondy Rogers, Jacksonville St.	JR	11	212	1417	6.68	13	128.82
Marcus King, Northern Ariz.	SR	10	224	1287	5.75	9	128.70
Stephan Lewis, New Hampshire	JR	11	249	1390	5.58	14	126.36
David Jamison, Rhode Island	SR	11	307	1320	4.30	10	120.00
J.R. Taylor, Eastern Ill.	JR	10	185	1177	6.36	18	117.70
Mike Malan, Brown	SR	9	170	1059	6.23	15	117.67
Royston English, Maine	SR	10	225	1157	5.14	8	115.70
Fred Boateng, Western Caro.	SO	11	229	1225	5.35	12	111.36
Tom Koutsos, Southern Ill.	JR	11	273	1222	4.48	9	111.09
Donte Small, Duquesne	SR	9	219	985	4.50	6	109.44
Curtis Cooper, Southeast Mo. St	SR	11	222	1198	5.40	5	108.91
Kirwin Watson, Fordham	SO	10	211	1076	5.10	6	107.60

I-AA INDIVIDUAL

Punt Returns *(minimum 1.2 returns per game)*

	YEAR	NO	YDS	TD	AVG
Curtis DeLoatch, N.C. A&T	SO	20	530	5	26.50
Junior Adams, Montana St.	JR	20	381	3	19.05
Ryan Jones, Dayton	SR	23	415	2	18.04
Zuriel Smith, Hampton	JR	29	514	4	17.72
Joseph Jefferson, Western Ky.	SR	22	377	1	17.14
Rich Musinski, William & Mary	SO	17	290	1	17.06
Jerald Burley, Youngstown St.	SO	17	289	1	17.00
Terrence McGee, Northwestern St.	JR	20	337	0	16.85
K. Ikwuezunma, Chattanooga	FR	12	195	1	16.25
R. Mathis, Bethune-Cookman	JR	24	387	2	16.13
Toby Moeves, Morehead St.	SR	22	343	2	15.59
Tony Barnes, Prairie View	SR	16	246	1	15.38
Curtis Cooper, Southeast Mo. St.	SR	14	215	1	15.36
Quentin Mitchell, Northeastern	SO	22	329	2	14.95
Kyler Randall, Eastern Wash.	SO	22	316	2	14.36
Kendrick Shanklin, Grambling	SR	23	329	2	14.30

Punting *(minimum 3.6 punts per game)*

	YEAR	G	NO	YDS	AVG
Eddie Johnson, Idaho St.	JR	11	49	2270	46.33
Aaron Wall, Ark.-Pine Bluff	JR	11	78	3402	43.62
Mark Gould, Northern Ariz.	SO	11	44	1909	43.39
Mark Spencer, Montana	JR	12	51	2201	43.16
Alex Ware, Dartmouth	JR	9	39	1674	42.92
Jimmy Sanchez, Cal St. Sac.	SR	11	55	2351	42.75
Dylan Mora, San Diego	SR	9	39	1639	42.03
Jimmy Miner, Wofford	SO	11	48	2016	42.00
Travis Grubb, Chattanooga	JR	11	69	2877	41.70
Chris Steiner, Delaware	JR	10	56	2334	41.68
Brent Barth, VMI	JR	11	64	2649	41.39
Mike Scifres, Western Ill.	JR	10	42	1737	41.36
David Sanger, Massachusetts	JR	11	68	2812	41.35
Aaron Bass, East Tenn. St.	SO	11	63	2585	41.03
Stanton Horne, Western Caro.	SO	11	49	2005	40.92
Eddie Pena, Southwest Mo. St.	SR	11	43	1759	40.91
Greg Mitchell, Northwestern St.	SR	11	57	2318	40.67
Nick Reynolds, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	41	1650	40.24
Brian Claybourn, Western Ky.	FR	11	52	2089	40.17

Field Goals

	YEAR	G	FGA	FG	PCT	FG/G
Brian Morgan, Grambling	FR	11	25	18	.720	1.64
Shane Andrus, Murray St.	SO	10	22	15	.682	1.50
Taylor Northrop, Princeton	SR	9	18	13	.722	1.44
Troy Griggs, Eastern Wash.	SR	11	20	14	.700	1.27
Javier Garcia, Idaho St.	SR	11	18	14	.778	1.27
M. Hoambrecker, Northern Iowa	JR	11	19	14	.737	1.27
Ryan Rossner, Stephen F. Austin	SO	11	26	14	.538	1.27
Brian Kelley, Lehigh	JR	10	17	12	.706	1.20
Vince Patrick, Texas Southern	SO	10	19	12	.632	1.20
Ed Kulic, Towson	SR	10	18	12	.667	1.20
Navid Niakan, Cal Poly	JR	11	22	13	.591	1.18
Mike Cajal-Willis, Portland St.	JR	11	17	13	.765	1.18
David Pretzer, Southern Utah	JR	11	19	13	.684	1.18
Erik Rockhold, Appalachian St.	JR	9	13	10	.769	1.11
Billy Cundiff, Drake	SR	10	17	11	.647	1.10
Martin Brecht, Lafayette	JR	10	17	11	.647	1.10
Brian Colsant, Fordham	SR	10	14	11	.786	1.10

Kickoff Returns *(minimum 1.2 returns per game)*

	YEAR	NO	YDS	TD	AVG
Brian Bratton, Furman	FR	14	521	3	37.21
Toby Moeves, Morehead St.	SR	17	522	1	30.71
LeJuan Walker, Nicholls St.	FR	16	482	1	30.13
Dustin Wilson, Albany (N.Y.)	SO	12	333	0	27.75
Terrance Patrick, Hampton	SO	31	853	2	27.52
Lennard Byrd, Maine	SR	21	575	1	27.38
Gary Reed, Samford	SR	17	464	0	27.29
Ryan Jones, Dayton	SR	16	434	0	27.13
Mike Washington, Charleston So.	JR	24	645	2	26.88
Demontray Carter, Troy St.	SR	17	455	1	26.76
Desmond Ray, St. Francis (Pa.)	FR	12	320	1	26.67
Soso Dede, Indiana St.	SO	15	400	0	26.67
Wendall Williams, Rhode Island	SO	20	532	0	26.60
Andre Raymond, Eastern Ill.	SO	18	477	0	26.50
Johnnie Gray, Weber St.	SR	14	369	0	26.36
Michael Goss, Jackson St.	JR	20	527	0	26.35
Javarus Dudley, Fordham	SO	28	736	0	26.29
Terry Tharps, Western Ill.	SR	19	493	1	25.95
Brian Westbrook, Villanova	SR	17	440	1	25.88

DIVISION I-AA TEAM LEADERS

Rushing Offense

	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Ga. Southern	11	616	3560	5.78	42	323.64
Western Ky.	11	668	3335	4.99	33	303.18
Youngstown St.	11	569	3083	5.42	35	280.27
St. Mary's (Cal.)	11	607	3074	5.06	25	279.45
Dayton	11	557	2982	5.35	42	271.09
Southern Utah	11	564	2926	5.19	24	266.00
Wofford	11	637	2905	4.56	29	264.09
Richmond	11	637	2748	4.31	20	249.82
Eastern Ky.	10	523	2389	4.57	28	238.90
Rhode Island	11	615	2572	4.18	28	233.82
Jacksonville St.	11	466	2491	5.35	26	226.45
Eastern Wash.	11	387	2479	6.41	28	225.36
Southwest Mo. St.	11	497	2463	4.96	29	223.91
Furman	11	492	2408	4.89	35	218.91
St. Peter's	11	565	2405	4.26	20	218.64
Eastern Ill.	10	389	2168	5.57	26	216.80

Turnover Margin

	FUM	INT	GAINED	FUM	INT	LOST	MARGIN/G
	GAINED			LOST			
St. Peter's	20	27	47	6	6	12	3.18
Sacred Heart	16	23	39	9	9	18	2.10
Dayton	6	31	37	7	7	14	2.09
Harvard	12	12	24	3	6	9	1.67
Lehigh	13	17	30	11	6	17	1.30
Cal Poly	10	20	30	8	8	16	1.27
Fordham	14	19	33	9	11	20	1.18
Grambling	17	21	38	11	14	25	1.18
Princeton	7	18	25	9	6	15	1.11
Hofstra	13	9	22	7	4	11	1.00
Northern Ariz.	16	13	29	15	3	18	1.00
N.C. A&T	11	20	31	13	8	21	0.91
Eastern Ky.	9	17	26	11	6	17	0.90
Pennsylvania	12	7	19	5	6	11	0.89
Northwestern St.	11	14	25	10	6	16	0.82

Rushing Defense

	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Pennsylvania	9	259	526	2.03	5	58.4
St. Peter's	11	362	646	1.78	5	58.7
Alabama A&M	9	367	889	2.42	13	80.8
McNeese St.	11	381	932	2.45	8	84.7
Lehigh	10	324	866	2.67	7	86.6
Eastern Ky.	10	311	869	2.79	11	86.9
Richmond	11	335	958	2.86	6	87.1
Bucknell	10	372	893	2.40	5	89.3
Western Ky.	11	409	1055	2.58	9	95.9
N.C. A&T	11	415	1064	2.56	15	96.7
Wagner	9	343	891	2.60	15	99.0
Grambling	11	333	1148	3.45	11	104.4
Colgate	10	305	1056	3.46	13	105.6
San Diego	9	308	963	3.13	12	107.0
Northern Ariz.	11	356	1186	3.33	12	107.8
Northwestern St.	11	418	1206	2.89	10	109.6
Albany (N.Y.)	10	355	1110	3.13	9	111.0
Sacred Heart	10	362	1113	3.07	11	111.3

Passing Offense

	G	ATT	CMP	INT	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Jackson St.	11	493	258	21	52.33	3788	7.68	31	344.4
Cal St. Northridge	10	432	258	11	59.72	3383	7.83	34	338.3
Tennessee St.	11	426	233	7	54.69	3324	7.80	30	302.2
Hofstra	11	336	206	4	61.31	3311	9.85	30	301.0
Weber St.	11	450	244	14	54.22	3289	7.31	28	299.0
Alabama St.	12	395	229	15	57.97	3509	8.88	36	292.4
Portland St.	11	368	218	5	59.24	3200	8.70	23	290.9
Eastern Wash.	11	397	237	13	59.70	3180	8.01	28	289.1
Western Ill.	10	334	186	12	55.69	2855	8.55	19	285.5
Sam Houston St.	11	367	227	8	61.85	3081	8.40	31	280.1
Villanova	11	388	265	14	68.30	3046	7.85	26	276.9
Howard	11	412	184	20	44.66	2952	7.17	23	268.4
Florida A&M	10	408	207	14	50.74	2668	6.54	18	266.8
Lafayette	10	415	232	20	55.90	2651	6.39	13	265.1
Brown	9	312	194	10	62.18	2383	7.64	17	264.8
Yale	9	364	197	11	54.12	2373	6.52	14	263.7
Southeast Mo. St.	11	413	225	18	54.48	2895	7.01	20	263.2
Cal St. Sacramento	11	409	220	12	53.79	2832	6.92	18	257.5

Total Offense

	G	PLAYS	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
Eastern Wash.	11	784	5659	7.22	60	514.45
Hofstra	11	790	5408	6.85	58	491.64
Alabama St.	12	817	5752	7.04	61	479.33
Portland St.	11	729	5255	7.21	47	477.73
Cal St. Northridge	10	788	4687	5.95	47	468.70
Tennessee St.	11	856	5112	5.97	52	464.73
Jackson St.	11	897	4993	5.57	54	453.91
Villanova	11	768	4970	6.47	53	451.82
New Hampshire	11	874	4941	5.65	43	449.18
Brown	9	628	4024	6.41	42	447.11
Harvard	9	656	4005	6.11	41	445.00
Weber St.	11	846	4894	5.78	46	444.91
Sam Houston St.	11	770	4811	6.25	55	437.36
Jacksonville St.	11	729	4705	6.45	46	427.73
William & Mary	11	757	4688	6.19	43	426.18
Eastern Ill.	10	600	4246	7.08	50	424.60

Passing-Efficiency Defense

	G	ATT	COMP	PCT	INT	PCT	YDS	YDS/ATT	TD	PCT	RATING
St. Peter's	11	265	107	40.38	27	10.19	1089	4.11	7	2.64	63.26
Sacred Heart	10	264	107	40.53	23	8.71	1460	5.53	6	2.27	77.03
Eastern Ky.	10	338	144	42.60	17	5.03	1766	5.22	6	1.78	82.29
Duquesne	10	281	138	49.11	21	7.47	1487	5.29	7	2.49	86.83
McNeese St.	11	341	146	42.82	16	4.69	1858	5.45	9	2.64	87.89
Southern U.	11	377	164	43.50	21	5.57	2093	5.55	11	2.92	88.62
Jacksonville	10	290	131	45.17	16	5.52	1670	5.76	8	2.76	91.64
Citadel	10	254	116	45.67	16	6.30	1534	6.04	7	2.76	92.93
Beth.-Cookman	10	243	99	40.74	11	4.53	1383	5.69	10	4.12	93.03
Florida A&M	10	273	117	42.86	11	4.03	1588	5.82	8	2.93	93.37
Dayton	11	270	130	48.15	31	11.48	1794	6.64	12	4.44	95.62
Western Caro.	11	230	109	47.39	13	5.65	1439	6.26	5	2.17	95.82
Western Ky.	11	259	129	49.81	13	5.02	1510	5.83	6	2.32	96.38
Ga. Southern	11	257	135	52.53	13	5.06	1382	5.38	7	2.72	96.54
Furman	11	327	183	55.96	14	4.28	1637	5.01	7	2.14	96.55
Tennessee St.	11	386	178	46.11	19	4.92	2314	5.99	12	3.11	96.87
Monmouth	10	277	128	46.21	12	4.33	1487	5.37	12	4.33	96.92

Total Defense

	G	PLAYS	YDS	AVG	TD	YDS/G
St. Peter's	11	627	1735	2.77	13	157.73
Western Ky.	11	668	2565	3.84	16	233.18
McNeese St.	11	722	2790	3.86	25	253.64
Sacred Heart	10	626	2573	4.11	19	257.30
Bucknell	10	671	2601	3.88	17	260.10
Ga. Southern	11	722	2875	3.98	17	261.36
Eastern Ky.	10	649	2635	4.06	18	263.50
Duquesne	10	668	2676	4.01	18	267.60
Appalachian St.	11	695	2973	4.28	29	270.27
Furman	11	740	3010	4.07	18	273.64
Richmond	11	627	3078	4.91	24	279.82
Bethune-Cookman	10	649	2803	4.32	27	280.30
Pennsylvania	9	625	2554	4.09	14	283.78
Norfolk St.	11	751	3199	4.26	36	290.82
Dayton	11	718	3203	4.46	23	291.18
Northwestern St.	11	728	3211	4.41	26	291.91
Monmouth	10	691	2925	4.23	20	292.50
Youngstown St.	11	737	3218	4.37	24	292.55

Scoring Offense

	G	PTS	AVG	TD
Eastern Wash.	11	461	41.9	60
Sacred Heart	10	419	41.9	58
Dayton	11	453	41.2	64
Lehigh	10	383	38.3	50
Hofstra	11	417	37.9	58
Grambling	11	413	37.6	53
Sam Houston St.	11	412	37.5	55
Ga. Southern	11	410	37.3	53
Alabama St.	12	444	37.0	61
Villanova	11	401	36.5	53
Eastern Ill.	10	360	36.0	50
Duquesne	10	355	35.5	50
Brown	9	319	35.4	42
Furman	11	389	35.4	52
Jackson St.	11	389	35.4	54
Tennessee St.	11	389	35.4	52
Robert Morris	9	310	34.4	42
Cal St. Northridge	10	342	34.2	47

Scoring Defense

	G	PTS	AVG	TD
St. Peter's	11	90	8.2	13
Western Ky.	11	122	11.1	16
Pennsylvania	9	103	11.4	14
Ga. Southern	11	132	12.0	17
Furman	11	154	14.0	18
Dayton	11	167	15.2	23
Duquesne	10	152	15.2	18
Sacred Heart	10	152	15.2	19
Monmouth	10	154	15.4	20
Eastern Ky.	10	155	15.5	18
Bucknell	10	157	15.7	17
Lehigh	10	158	15.8	20
Richmond	11	189	17.2	24
Youngstown St.	11	191	17.4	24
McNeese St.	11	192	17.5	25
Citadel	10	183	18.3	23
Northwestern St.	11	204	18.5	26
Colgate	10	189	18.9	23

—compiled by Stephanie Brooks

Division I-A

Atlantic Coast

	CONFERENCE W	L	PCT	OVERALL W	L	PCT
Maryland	7	1	.875	10	2	.833
Florida St.	6	2	.750	8	4	.667
North Carolina	5	3	.625	8	5	.615
Georgia Tech	4	4	.500	8	5	.615
Clemson	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
N.C. State	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Wake Forest	3	5	.375	6	5	.545
Virginia	3	5	.375	5	7	.417
Duke	0	8	.000	0	11	1.000

Big East

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Miami (Fla.)	7	0	1.000	12	0	1.000
Syracuse	6	1	.857	10	3	.769
Boston College	4	3	.571	8	4	.667
Virginia Tech	4	3	.571	8	4	.667
Pittsburgh	4	3	.571	7	5	.583
Temple	2	5	.286	4	7	.364
West Virginia	1	6	.143	3	8	.273
Rutgers	0	7	.000	2	9	.182

Big Ten

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Illinois	7	1	.875	10	2	.833
Michigan	6	2	.750	8	4	.667
Ohio St.	5	3	.625	7	5	.583
Iowa	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Purdue	4	4	.500	6	6	.500
Indiana	4	4	.500	5	6	.455
Penn St.	4	4	.500	5	6	.455
Michigan St.	3	5	.375	7	5	.583
Wisconsin	3	5	.375	5	7	.417
Minnesota	2	6	.250	4	7	.364
Northwestern	2	6	.250	4	7	.364

Big 12

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
NORTH						
Nebraska	7	1	.875	11	1	.917
Colorado	7	1	.875	10	3	.769
Iowa St.	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Kansas St.	3	5	.375	6	6	.500
Missouri	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
Kansas	1	7	.125	3	8	.273
SOUTH						
Texas	7	1	.875	11	2	.846
Oklahoma	6	2	.750	11	2	.846
Texas A&M	4	4	.500	8	4	.667
Texas Tech	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Oklahoma St.	2	6	.250	4	7	.364
Baylor	0	8	.000	3	8	.273

Big West

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Boise St.	5	0	1.000	10	2	.833
Utah St.	4	1	.800	5	6	.455
Idaho	3	2	.600	5	6	.455
New Mexico St.	1	4	.200	3	8	.273
North Texas	1	4	.200	3	8	.273
Arkansas St.	1	4	.200	1	10	.091

Conference USA

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Louisville	6	1	.857	11	2	.846
Cincinnati	5	2	.714	7	5	.583
UAB	5	2	.714	6	5	.545
East Carolina	5	2	.714	6	6	.500
Southern Miss	4	3	.571	6	5	.545
TCU	4	3	.571	6	6	.500
Memphis	3	4	.429	5	6	.455
Army	2	5	.286	3	8	.273
Tulane	1	6	.143	3	9	.250
Houston	0	7	.000	0	11	1.000

Mid-American

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
EAST						
Marshall	8	0	1.000	11	2	.846
Miami (Ohio)	6	2	.750	7	5	.583
Bowling Green	5	3	.625	8	3	.727
Kent St.	5	3	.625	6	5	.545
Akron	4	4	.500	4	7	.364
Buffalo	1	7	.125	3	8	.273
Ohio	1	7	.125	1	10	.091
WEST						
Toledo	5	2	.714	10	2	.833
N. Illinois	4	3	.571	6	5	.545
Ball St.	4	3	.571	5	6	.455
Western Michigan	4	4	.500	5	6	.455
Central Michigan	2	6	.250	3	8	.273
Eastern Michigan	1	6	.143	2	9	.182

Mountain West

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
BYU	7	0	1.000	12	2	.857
Colorado St.	5	2	.714	7	5	.583
Utah	4	3	.571	8	4	.667
New Mexico	4	3	.571	6	5	.545
Air Force	3	4	.429	6	6	.500
UNLV	3	4	.429	4	7	.364
San Diego St.	2	5	.286	3	8	.273
Wyoming	0	7	.000	2	9	.182

Pac-10

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Oregon	7	1	.875	11	1	.917
Washington St.	6	2	.750	10	2	.833
Stanford	6	2	.750	9	3	.750
Washington	6	2	.750	8	4	.667
USC	5	3	.625	6	6	.500
UCLA	4	4	.500	7	4	.636
Oregon St.	3	5	.375	5	6	.455
Arizona	2	6	.250	5	6	.455
Arizona St.	1	7	.125	4	7	.364
California	0	8	.000	1	10	.091

Southeastern

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
EAST						
Tennessee	7	1	.875	11	2	.846
Florida	6	2	.750	10	2	.833
South Carolina	5	3	.625	9	3	.750
Georgia	5	3	.625	8	4	.667
Kentucky	1	7	.125	2	9	.182
Vanderbilt	0	8	.000	2	9	.182
WEST						
LSU	5	3	.625	10	3	.769
Auburn	5	3	.625	7	5	.583
Mississippi	4	4	.500	7	4	.636
Alabama	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Arkansas	4	4	.500	7	5	.583
Mississippi St.	2	6	.250	3	8	.273

Western Athletic

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Louisiana Tech	7	1	.875	7	5	.583
Fresno St.	6	2	.750	11	3	.786
Boise St.	6	2	.750	8	4	.667
Hawaii	5	3	.625	9	3	.750
Rice	5	3	.625	8	4	.667
SMU	4	4	.500	4	7	.364
Nevada	3	5	.375	3	8	.273
San Jose St.	3	5	.375	3	9	.250
Texas El Paso	1	7	.125	2	9	.182
Tulsa	0	8	.000	1	10	.091

Independents

	W	L	PCT
South Florida	8	3	.727
Troy St.	7	4	.636
Central Florida	6	5	.545
Notre Dame	5	6	.455
Utah St.	3	8	.273
Connecticut	2	9	.182
Navy	0	10	.000

Division I-AA

Atlantic 10

	CONFERENCE W	L	PCT	OVERALL W	L	PCT
Hofstra	7	2	.778	9	3	.750
William & Mary	7	2	.778	8	4	.667
Maine	7	2	.778	9	3	.750
Villanova	7	2	.778	8	3	.727
Rhode Island	6	3	.667	8	3	.727
Delaware	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Northeastern	4	5	.444	5	6	.455
Massachusetts	3	6	.333	3	8	.273
Richmond	3	6	.333	3	8	.273
New Hampshire	2	7	.222	4	7	.364
James Madison	0	9	.000	2	9	.182

Big Sky

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Montana	7	0	1.000	13	1	.929
Northern Arizona	5	2	.714	8	4	.667
Portland St.	5	2	.714	7	4	.636
Montana St.	4	3	.571	5	6	.455
Eastern Washington	3	4	.429	7	4	.636
Weber St.	2	5	.286	3	8	.273
Idaho St.	1	6	.143	3	7	.300
Sacramento St.	1	6	.143	2	9	.182

Gateway

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Northern Iowa	6	1	.857	11	3	.786
Youngstown St.	5	2	.714	8	3	.727
Western Kentucky	5	2	.714	8	4	.667
Western Illinois	4	3	.429	5	5	.500
SW Missouri St.	3	4	.429	6	5	.545
Indiana St.	2	5	.286	3	8	.273
Illinois St.	2	5	.286	2	9	.182
Southern Illinois	1	6	.143	1	10	.091

Ivy League

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Harvard	7	0	1.000	9	0	1.000
Penn	6	1	.857	8	1	.889
Brown	5	2	.714	6	3	.667
Columbia	3	4	.429	3	7	.300
Princeton	3	4	.429	3	6	.333
Cornell	2	5	.286	2	7	.222
Yale	1	6	.143	3	6	.333
Dartmouth	1	6	.143	1	8	.111

Metro Atlantic Athletic

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Duquesne	6	0	1.000	8	3	.727
St. Peters	6	1	.857	10	1	.910
Fairfield	5	2	.714	5	5	.500
Iona	3	3	.500	4	5	.444
La Salle	2	4	.333	5	4	.556
Marist	2	4	.333	3	6	.333
Canisus	1	6	.143	1	9	.100
Siena	1	6	.143	1	8	.111

Mid-Eastern Athletic

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Florida A&M	6	1	.857	6	4	.600
Hampton	6	2	.750	7	4	.636
N. Carolina A&T	5	3	.625	8	3	.727
Bethune Cookman	5	3	.625	6	4	.600
South Carolina St.	5	4	.556	6	5	.545
Delaware St.	3	5	.375	5	6	.455
Norfolk St.	3	5	.375	5	6	.455
Morgan St.	1	6	.143	2	8	.200
Howard	1	7	.125	2	9	.182

Northeast

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Sacred Heart	8	0	1.000	11	0	1.000
Robert Morris	6	1	.857	6	3	.667
Albany	5	2	.714	7	3	.700
Monmouth	5	2	.714	7	3	.700
Stony Brook	3	5	.375	3	6	.333
Wagner	3	5	.375	3	6	.333
Central Conn. St.	2	5	.286	2	7	.222
St. John's	1	6	.143	1	9	.100
St. Francis (PA)	0	7	.000	0	10	.000

Ohio Valley

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Eastern Illinois	6	0	1.000	9	2	.818
Eastern Kentucky	5	1	.833	8	2	.800
Tennessee Tech	4	2	.667	7	3	.700
Tennessee St.	3	3	.500	8	3	.727
Murray St.	2	4	.333	4	6	.400
Southeast Missouri	2	5	.286	4	7	.363
Tennessee-Martin	0	6	.000	1	10	.090

Patriot League

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Lehigh	7	0	1.000	11	1	.917
Colgate	5	1	.833	7	3	.700
Fordham	5	2	.714	7	4	.636
Bucknell	4	3	.571	6	4	.600
Holy Cross	3	4	.429	4	6	.400
Towson	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Lafayette	1	6	.143	2	8	.200
Georgetown	0	6	.000	3	7	.300

Pioneer Football League

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
NORTH						
Dayton	4	0	1.000	10	1	.909
Butler	2	2	.500	5	5	.500
San Diego	2	2	.500	6	3	.667
Drake	1	3	.250	5	5	.500
Valparaiso	1	3	.250	3	8	.273
SOUTH						
Jacksonville	3	0	1.000	6	5	.545
Morehead St.	2	1	.667	6	5	.545
Davidson	1	2	.333	5	4	.556
Austin Peay	0	3	.000	3	7	.300

Southern

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Ga. Southern	7	1	.875	12	2	.857
Furman	7	1	.875	12	3	.800
Appalachian St.	6	2	.750	9	4	.692
Western Carolina	5	3	.625	7	4	.636
East Tenn. St.	4	4	.500	6	5	.545
Wofford	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
The Citadel	2	6	.250	3	7	.300
Chattanooga	1	7	.125	3	8	.273
VMI	1	7	.125	1	10	.091

Southland Football League

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Sam Houston St.	4	1	.800	8	2	.800
Stephen F. Austin	4	1	.800	6	3	.667
McNeese St.	3	1	.750	6	3	.667
Northwestern St.	3	2	.600	7	3	.700
Jacksonville St.	2	3	.400	5	4	.556
Nicholls St.	1	4	.200	2	7	.222
Southwest Texas	0	5	.000	4	6	.400

Southwestern Athletic

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
EAST						
Alabama St.	6	1	.857	8	4	.667
Jackson St.	5	2	.714	7	4	.636
Alcorn St.	5	2	.714	6	5	.545
Alabama A&M	3	4	.429	4	7	.364
Miss. Valley St.	0	7	.000	0	11	.000
WEST						
Grambling St.	6	1	.857	10	1	.909
Southern U.	5	2	.714	7	4	.636
Prairie View A&M	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Texas Southern	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Ark.-Pine Bluff	1	6	.143	4	7	.364

Independents

	W	L	PCT
Gardner-Webb	6	4	.600
Cal Poly	6	5	.545
St. Mary's (Cal.)	6	5	.545
Samford	5	5	.500
Charleston So.	5	6	.455
Liberty	3	8	.273
Elon	2	9	.182
Southern Utah	2	9	.182

Division II

Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association

	CONFERENCE W	L	PCT	OVERALL W	L	PCT
EAST						
Virginia Union	5	1	.833	8	3	.727
Bowie State	4	2	.667	7	3	.700
Virginia State	2	4	.333	3	6	.333
Elizabeth City St.	0	6	.000	2	7	.222
WEST						
Winston-Salem St.	5	1	.833	8	3	.727
Fayetteville St.	4	2	.667	6	4	.600
N.C. Central	3	3	.500	5	4	.556
Johnson C. Smith	2	4	.333	2	7	.222
Livingstone	0	6	.000	1	8	.111

Great Lakes

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Grand Valley St.	9	0	1.000	13	1	.929
Saginaw Valley St.	9	1	.900	11	2	.846
Ferris St.	7	3	.700	7	4	.636
Indianapolis	6	4	.600	7	4	.636
Ashland	5	5	.500	6	5	.545
Michigan Tech	5	5	.500	5	5	.500
Northwood	3	6	.333	3	6	.333
Wayne St.	3	6	.333	3	7	.300
Northern Michigan	3	7	.300	4	7	.364
Findlay	3	7	.300	3	8	.273
Hillsdale	3	7	.300	3	8	.273
Mercyhurst	2	7	.222	2	7	.222

Great Northwest Athletic

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Western Washington	3	0	1.000	8	3	.727
Westerm Oregon	1	2	.333	4	5	.444
Central Washington	1	2	.333	4	7	.363
Humboldt St.	1	2	.333	4	7	.363

Gulf South

	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Valdosta St.	9	0	1.000	12	1	.923
Central Arkansas	7	2	.778	9	3	.750
Arkansas Tech	7	2	.778	8	2	.800
West Georgia	6	3	.667	8	3	.727
Delta St.	6	3	.667	7	3	.700
Southern Arkansas	5	4	.556	5	5	.500
Arkansas-Monticello	4	5	.444	5	6	.455
Harding	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
North Alabama	3	6	.333	4	6	.400

*Bowl and playoff games included

Ouachita Baptist	2	7	.222	3	7	.300
Henderson St.	1	8	.111	1	10	.091
West Alabama	0	9	.000	1	10	.091

Lone Star

NORTH						
Midwestern St.	4	1	.800	7	4	.636
East Central	3	2	.600	6	4	.600
Northeastern St.	3	2	.600	5	5	.500
Southwestern Okla.	2	3	.400	4	6	.400
Southeastern Okla.	2	3	.400	3	7	.300
Central Oklahoma	1	4	.200	3	8	.273
SOUTH						
Texas A&M-Kingsville	5	1	.833	9	1	.900
Tarleton St.	5	1	.833	9	2	.818
Angelo St.	4	2	.667	6	4	.600
Texas A&M-Commerce	3	3	.500	7	4	.636
Eastern New Mexico	2	4	.333	6	4	.600
Abilene Christian	2	4	.333	3	8	.273
West Texas A&M	0	6	.000	2	9	.182

Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association

Pittsburgh St.	8	1	.889	11	2	.846
Central Mo. St.	7	2	.778	10	2	.833
Truman St.	6	3	.667	8	3	.727
Mo. Western St.	6	3	.667	8	3	.727
NW Missouri St.	6	3	.667	7	4	.636
Southwest Baptist	4	5	.444	6	5	.545
Emporia St.	3	6	.333	5	6	.455
Mo. Southern St.	3	6	.333	4	6	.400
Washburn	2	7	.222	3	8	.273
Mo.-Rolla	0	9	.000	2	9	.182

North Central Intercollegiate Athletic

North Dakota	7	1	.875	10	1	.909
Neb.-Omaha	6	2	.750	8	2	.800
North Dakota St.	5	3	.625	7	3	.700
Northern Colo.	4	4	.500	7	4	.636
South Dakota St.	4	4	.500	5	6	.455
Augustana	3	5	.375	5	5	.500
Minn. St.-Mankato	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
St. Cloud St.	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
South Dakota	1	7	.125	2	8	.200

Northeast 10

C.W. Post	9	1	.900	11	1	.916
Bentley	8	2	.800	9	3	.750
American Int'l	8	2	.800	8	2	.800
Southern Conn. St.	6	4	.600	6	4	.600
Merrimack	6	4	.600	6	4	.600
St. Anselm	5	5	.500	5	5	.500
Bryant	4	5	.444	4	5	.444
Pace	4	5	.444	4	5	.444
Stonehill	3	7	.300	4	7	.363
Mass.-Lowell	1	9	.100	1	9	.100
Assumption	0	10	.000	1	10	.090

Northern Sun Intercollegiate Athletic

Winona St.	9	0	1.000	10	2	.833
Minn.-Duluth	7	2	.778	9	3	.750
Concordia-St. Paul	6	3	.667	8	3	.727
Bemidji St.	5	4	.556	7	4	.636
Moorhead St.	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Minn.-Crookston	4	5	.444	4	7	.364
Northern St.	4	5	.444	4	7	.364
Wayne St.	3	6	.333	4	7	.364
Southwest St.	3	6	.333	3	8	.273
Minn.-Morris	0	9	.000	0	11	.000

Pennsylvania State Athletic

EASTERN						
Bloomsburg	6	0	1.000	9	2	.818
Stroudsburg	5	1	.833	7	3	.700
Kutztown	4	2	.667	6	4	.600
West Chester	3	3	.500	5	4	.556
Millersville	2	4	.333	3	8	.272
Mansfield	1	5	.167	2	8	.200
Cheyney	0	6	.000	0	10	.000
WESTERN						
Indiana (Pa.)	6	0	1.000	8	2	.800
Shippensburg	5	1	.833	8	3	.727
Slippery Rock	3	3	.500	6	4	.600
Edinboro	3	3	.500	4	6	.400
Clarion	2	4	.333	4	7	.364
California (Pa.)	1	5	.167	5	5	.500
Lock Haven	1	5	.167	3	8	.273

Rocky Mountain Athletic

Chadron St.	8	0	1.000	10	0	1.000
Neb.-Kearney	7	1	.875	8	2	.800
Western St.	5	3	.625	6	5	.546
Mesa St.	5	3	.625	7	4	.636
Colo. Mines	4	4	.500	7	4	.636
N.M. Highlands	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
Fort Hays St.	2	6	.250	3	8	.273
Fort Lewis	1	7	.125	2	9	.182
Adams St.	1	7	.125	2	9	.182

South Atlantic

Catawba	6	1	.857	11	2	.846
Tusculum	5	2	.714	8	2	.800
Presbyterian	5	2	.714	7	3	.700
Carson-Newman	5	2	.714	6	3	.667
Mars Hill	4	3	.571	7	4	.636
Lenoir-Rhyne	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Wingate	1	6	.143	4	7	.364
Newberry	0	7	.000	4	7	.364

Southern Intercollegiate Athletic

Tuskegee	6	1	.857	10	1	.909
Fort Valley	6	1	.857	8	2	.800
Morehouse	6	1	.857	7	2	.778
Albany (Ga.) St.	3	4	.429	4	6	.400
Miles	3	4	.429	4	7	.364
Kentucky St.	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Lane	1	6	.143	3	7	.300
Clark Atlanta	1	6	.143	1	9	.100

West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic

Glenville St.	6	1	.857	6	3	.667
Shepherd	5	2	.714	8	2	.800
Fairmont St.	5	2	.714	6	3	.667
West Va. Tech	4	3	.571	5	6	.455
West Liberty St.	3	4	.429	5	5	.500
West Va. Wesleyan	3	4	.429	3	6	.333
West Virginia St.	2	5	.286	4	7	.364
Concord	0	7	.000	1	9	.100

Independents

UC Davis	10	2	.833
Gannon	5	4	.555
New Haven	5	4	.555
Benedict	5	5	.500
Westminster	4	5	.444
Western N.M.	3	7	.300
Quincy	2	8	.200
St. Joseph's (Ind.)	2	8	.200
Kentucky Wesleyan	1	9	.100
North Greenville (S.C.)	0	9	.000
Okla. Panhandle	0	10	.000

Division III

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT

American Southwest

Hardin-Simmons	8	0	1.000	8	2	.800
Mary Hardin-Baylor	7	1	.875	8	2	.800
Howard Payne	7	2	.778	8	2	.800
Mississippi	6	3	.667	7	3	.700
East Texas Baptist	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Austin	3	5	.375	3	6	.333
Louisiana College	3	6	.333	4	6	.400
Sul Ross State	3	6	.333	3	7	.300
Texas Lutheran	2	7	.222	2	8	.200
McMurry	0	8	.000	0	9	.000

Atlantic Central

Wesley	3	0	1.000	7	2	.777
Frostburg St.	2	1	.666	5	4	.555
Salisbury	1	2	.333	4	6	.400
Apprentice	0	3	.000	2	7	.222

Centennial

Western Md.	5	1	.833	8	3	.727
Muhlenberg	5	1	.833	7	4	.636
Johns Hopkins	4	2	.666	6	3	.666
Ursinus	3	3	.500	6	4	.600
Dickinson	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Gettysburg	1	5	.166	4	6	.400
Frank. & Marsh.	0	6	.000	1	9	.100

College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin

Augustana (Ill.)	6	1	.857	10	2	.833
Ill. Wesleyan	6	1	.857	7	2	.777
Millikin	5	2	.714	8	2	.800
Wheaton (Ill.)	5	2	.714	6	4	.600
Carthage	3	4	.428	6	4	.600
North Central	2	5	.285	3	7	.300
Elmhurst	1	6	.142	2	8	.200
North Park	0	7	.000	2	8	.200

Dixie

Ferrum	5	1	.833	6	4	.600
Christopher Newport	5	1	.833	5	4	.556
Methodist	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Greensboro	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Shenandoah	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Chowan	2	4	.333	3	7	.300
Averett	0	6	.000	2	7	.222

Freedom

Western Conn. St.	5	1	.833	7	1	.875
Plymouth St.	5	1	.833	7	3	.700
Springfield	3	3	.500	4	5	.444
Kings Point	3	3	.500	4	5	.444
Worcester Tech	3	3	.500	4	6	.400
Norwich	1	5	.167	4	6	.400
Coast Guard	1	5	.167	2	7	.222

Heartland

Defiance	5	1	.833	8	3	.800
Anderson	5	1	.833	8	2	.800
Hanover	4	2	.667	5	5	.500
Bluffton	4	2	.667	5	5	.500
Franklin	2	4	.333	3	7	.300
Manchester	1	5	.167	2	8	.200
Mount St. Joseph	0	6	.000	0	10	.000

Illini Badger

MacMurray	7	0	1.000	8	1	.888
Aurora	6	1	.857	7	2	.777
Benedictine (Ill.)	4	3	.571	4	6	.400
Concordia (Wis.)	4	3	.571	5	4	.555
Greenville (Ill.)	2	5	.285	5	5	.500
Lakeland	3	4	.428	4	6	.400
Eureka	1	6	.142	1	9	.100
Concordia (Ill.)	1	6	.142	1	9	.100

Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic

Central (Iowa)	8	1	.889	9	2	.818
Wartburg	7	2	.778	8	2	.800
Cornell	6	3	.667	7	3	.700
Coe	6	3	.667	6	4	.600
Loras	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Buena Vista	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Simpson	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Upper Iowa	3	6	.333	3	7	.300
Luther	2	7	.222	3	7	.300
Dubuque	1	8	.111	2	8	.200

Michigan Intercollegiate

Albion	5	0	1.000	8	2	.800
Hope	4	1	.800	7	2	.777
Alma	3	2	.600	6	4	.600
Adrian	2	3	.400	2	8	.200
Kalamazoo	1	4	.200	5	4	.555
Olivet	0	5	.000	1	9	.100

Middle Atlantic States Collegiate

Widener	10	0	1.000	10	0	1.000
Lycoming	8	1	.889	8	1	.889
King's (Pa.)	7	2	.778	7	3	.700
Albright	5	4	.556	6	4	.600
Juniata	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Moravian	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Susquehanna	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Wilkes	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Delaware Valley	2	7	.222	3	7	.300
Lebanon Valley	1	8	.111	1	9	.100
FDU-Madison	1	8	.111	1	9	.100

Midwest Collegiate Athletic

St. Norbert	7	1	.875	8	2	.800
Ripon	7	1	.875	8	1	.888
Monmouth (Ill.)	6	2	.750	8	2	.800
Grinnell	5	3	.625	5	5	.500
Illinois Coll.	4	4	.500	6	4	.600
Lake Forest	4	4	.500	4	6	.400
Beloit	2	6	.250	3	7	.300
Carroll (Wis.)	2	6	.250	2	7	.222
Knox	2	6	.250	2	7	.222
Lawrence	1	7	.125	2	8	.200

Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic

St. John's (Minn.)	8	1	.888	11	3	.785
Bethel (Minn.)	8	1	.888	9	2	.818
St. Thomas (Minn.)	7	2	.778	7	3	.700
Gust. Adolphus	6	3	.666	7	3	.700
St. Olaf	5	4	.556	6	4	.600
Augsburg	4	5	.444	4	6	.400
Concordia-M'head	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Hamline	2	7	.222	2	8	.200
Macalester	1	8	.111	1	9	.100
Carleton	0	9	.000	0	10	.000

New England Football

BOYD						
Nichols	5	0	1.000	6	4	.600
Curry	4	1	.800	9	1	.900
Mass.-Dartmouth	3	2	.600	6	3	.666
Salve Regina	2	3	.400	4	4	.500
Western New Eng.	1	4	.200	3	5	.600
MIT	0	5	.000	1	8	.111
BOGAN						
Westfield St.	6	0	1.000	10	0	1.000
Worcester St.	5	1	.833	9	1	.9
Bridgewater (Mass.)	3	3	.500	5	4	.556
Framingham St.	2	4	.333	2	7	.222
Maine Maritime	2	4	.333	2	7	.222
Mass. Maritime	2	4	.333	2	7	.222
Fitchburg St.	1	5	.166	2	7	.222

New England Small Collegiate

Williams	8	0	1.000	8	0	1.000
Amherst	7	1	.875	7	1	.875
Tufts	6	2	.750	6	2	.750
Colby	4	4	.500	4	4	.500
Middlebury	4	4	.500	4	4	.500
Trinity	4	4	.500	4	4	.500
Wesleyan	4	4	.500	4	4	.500
Bates	1	7	.125	1	7	.125
Bowdoin	1	7	.125	1	7	.125
Hamilton	1	7	.125	1	7	.125

New Jersey Athletic

Rowan	10	5	.666	11	2	.846
Montclair St.	10	5	.666	9	2	.818
Col. Of New Jersey	8	4	.666	6	4	.600
Cortland St.	6	3	.666	5	5	.500
Wm. Paterson	4	2	.666	3	7	.300
New Jersey City	2	1	.666	1	8	.111
Kean	2	1	.666	2	7	.222

North Coast Athletic

Wittenberg	7	0	1.000	9	1	.900
Ohio Wesleyan	6	1	.857	9	1	.900
Wabash	6	1	.857	8	2	.800
Allegheny	4	3	.571	5	5	.500
Wooster	3	4	.429	4	6	.400
Earlham	3	4	.429	4	6	.400
Oberlin	2	5	.286	2	8	.200
Denison	2	5	.286	2	8	.200
Hiram	1	6	.143	3	7	.300
Kenyon	1	6	.143	1	9	.100

Northwest

Pacific Lutheran	4	1	.800	8	3	.727
Whitworth	4	1	.800	7	2	.777
Linfield	4	1	.800	7	2	.777
Willamette	2	3	.400	4	5	.444
Lewis & Clark	1	4	.200	3	6	.333
Puget Sound	0	5	.000	0	9	.000

Ohio Athletic

Mount Union	9	0	1.000	14	0	1.000
Ohio Northern	8	1	.889	8	2	.800
Capital	6	3	.667	7	3	.700
John Carroll	6	3	.667	7	3	.700
Baldwin-Wallace	5	4	.556	6	4	.600
Wilmington	4	5	.444	5	5	.500
Otterbein	3	6	.333	4	6	.400
Muskingum	2	7	.222	3	7	.300
Marietta	1	8	.111	2	8	.200
Heidelberg	1	8	.111	1	9	.100

Old Dominion Athletic

Bridgewater (Va.)	6	0	1.000	9	0	1.000
Hampden-Sydney	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Wash. & Lee	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Emory & Henry	3	3	.500	5	5	.500
Guilford	3	3	.500	4	6	.400
Randolph-Macon	2	4	.333	4	6	.400
Catholic	1	5	.167	3	7	.300

Presidents' Athletic

Wash. & Jeff.	4	0	1.000	10	0	1.000
Westminster (Pa.)	3	2	.600	4	5	.444
Bethany (W.V.)	2	2	.500	6	3	.666
Waynesburg	2	3	.400	3	7	.300
Grove City	1	3	.250	2	7	.222
Thiel	1	3	.250	2	8	.200

Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic

Occidental	5	0	1.000	8	1	.888
Ca. Lutheran	3	2	.600	6	3	.666
Redlands	3	2	.600	5	3	.625
Claremont-M-S	2	3	.400	5	3	.625
Whittier	2	3	.400	2	7	.222
La Verne	0	5	.000	1	8	.111

Southern Collegiate Athletic

Trinity (Tex.)	6	0	1.000	9	2	.818
Centre	5	1	.833	9	1	.900
DePauw	4	2	.666	5	5	.500
Millsaps	3	3	.500	6	4	.600
Univ. of the South	2	4	.333	5	5	.500
Rhodes	1	5	.166	5	5	.500
Rose-Hulman	0	6	.000	2	8	.200

University Athletic Association

Washington (Mo.)	4	0	1.000	8	2	.800
Carnegie Mellon	3	1	.750	7	2	.777
Case Western	1	3	.250	5	5	.500
Chicago	1	3	.250	6	3	.666
Rochester	1	3	.250	3	7	.300

Upstate Collegiate Athletic

Rensselaer	4	0	1.000	8	0	1.000
Union (N.Y.)	3	1	.750	8	2	.800
Hobart	2	2	.500	6	3	.667
Rochester	1	3	.250	3	7	.300
St. Lawrence	0	4	.000	0	10	.000

Wisconsin State University

Wis.-Eau Claire	5	2	.714	8	2	.800
Wis.-Stevens Point	5	2	.714	8	3	.727
Wis.-Stout	4	3	.571	6	3	.666
Wis.-River Falls	4	3	.571	4	5	.444
Wis.-La Crosse	3	4	.428	4	6	.400
Wis.-Platteville	3	4	.428	4	6	.400
Wis.-Whitewater	2	5	.285	5	5	.500
Wis.-Oshkosh	2	5	.285	3	6	.333

Independents

Thomas More	11	1	.916
Ithaca	11	2	.846
Brockport St.	9	2	.818
Menlo	8	2	.800
Stillman	6	3	.666
Hartwick	7	4	.636
Martin Luther	8	6	.571
Rockford	5	4	.555
Alfred	4	5	.444
Wis.-Lutheran	4	5	.444
Chapman	3	6	.333
Colorado Col.	3	6	.333
Pomona Pitzer	2	6	.333
Principia	2	4	.333
St. John Fisher	3	7	.300
Maranatha Baptist	2	8	.200
Maryville (Tenn.)	2	8	.200
Westminster (Mo.)	2	8	.200
Buffalo St.	1	8	.111
Eastern Oregon	1	8	.111
Mount Ida	1	8	.111
Blackburn	0	10	.000
Gallaudet	0	4	.000
Utica	0	8	.000

Bowl Games

Alamo ..... Iowa 19, Texas Tech 16
Citrus ..... Tennessee 45, Michigan 17
Cotton ..... Oklahoma 10, Arkansas 3
Fiesta ..... Oregon 38, Colorado 16
galleryfurniture.com Texas A&M 28, TCU 9
Gator ..... Florida St. 30, Virginia Tech 17
GMAC ..... Marshall 64, East Carolina 61 (2OT)
Holiday ..... Texas 47, Washington 43
Humanitarian ..... Clemson 49, Louisiana Tech 24
Independence ..... Alabama 14, Iowa St. 13
Insight.com ..... Syracuse 26, Kansas St. 3
Las Vegas ..... Utah 10, USC 6
Liberty ..... Louisville 28, BYU 10
Motor City ..... Toledo 23, Cincinnati 16
Music City ..... Boston College 20, Georgia 16
New Orleans ..... Colorado St. 45, North Texas 20
Orange ..... Florida 56, Maryland 23
Outback ..... South Carolina 31, Ohio St. 28
Peach ..... North Carolina 16, Auburn 10
Rose ..... Miami 37, Nebraska 14
Seattle ..... Georgia Tech 24, Stanford 14
Silicon Valley ..... Michigan St. 44, Fresno St. 35
Sugar ..... LSU 47, Illinois 34
Sun ..... Washington St. 33, Purdue 27
Tangerine ..... Pittsburgh 34, N.C. State 19

Division I-AA Playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Appalachian St. 40 ..... William & Mary 27
Furman 24 ..... Western Kentucky 20
Georgia Southern 60 ..... Florida A&M 35
Lehigh 27 ..... Hofstra 24 (OT)
Maine 14 ..... McNeese St. 10
Montana 28 ..... Northwestern St. 19
Northern Iowa 49 ..... Eastern Illinois 43
Sam Houston St. 34 ..... Northern Arizona 31

QUARTERFINALS

Furman 34 ..... Lehigh 17
Georgia Southern 38 ..... Appalachian St. 24
Montana 49 ..... Sam Houston St. 24
Northern Iowa 56 ..... Maine 28

SEMIFINALS

Furman 24 ..... Georgia Southern 17
Montana 38 ..... Northern Iowa 0

CHAMPIONSHIP

Montana 13 ..... Furman 6

Division II Playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Catawba 35 ..... Central Arkansas 34
Grand Valley St. 42 ..... Bloomsburg 14
North Dakota 42 ..... Winona St. 28
Pittsburgh St. 20 ..... Nebraska-Omaha 7
Saginaw Valley St. 33 ..... Indiana (Pa.) 32
Tarleton St. 28 ..... Chadron St. 24
UC Davis 37 ..... Tex. A&M-Kingsville 32
Valdosta St. 40 ..... Fort Valley St. 24

QUARTERFINALS

Catawba 37 ..... Valdosta St. 34 (OT)
Grand Valley St. 33 ..... Saginaw Valley St. 30
North Dakota 38 ..... Pittsburgh St. 0
UC Davis 42 ..... Tarleton St. 25

SEMIFINALS

Grand Valley St. 34 ..... Catawba 16
North Dakota 14 ..... UC Davis 2

CHAMPIONSHIP

North Dakota 17 ..... Grand Valley St. 14

Division III Playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Augustana 54 ..... Defiance 14
Ithaca 35 ..... Montclair St. 23
Pacific Lutheran 27 ..... Whitworth 26 (OT)
Rowan 40 ..... Brockport St. 17
St. John's (Minn.) 27 ..... St. Norbert 20
Thomas More 34 ..... MacMurray 30
Trinity (Tex.) 30 ..... Mary Hardin-Baylor 6
Wash. & Jeff. 24 ..... Western Maryland 21
Western Conn. St. 8 ..... Westfield St. 7
Widener 56 ..... Christopher Newport 7
Wis.-Steven Point 37 ..... Bethel (Minn.) 27
Wittenberg 38 ..... Hardin-Simmons 35 (OT)

SECOND ROUND

Bridgewater (Va.) 41 ..... Trinity (Tex.) 37
Ithaca 27 ..... Rensselaer 10
Mount Union 32 ..... Augustana 7
Pacific Lutheran 27 ..... Central (Iowa) 21 (OT)
Rowan 43 ..... Western. Conn. St. 14
St. John's (Minn.) 9 ..... Wis.-Stevens Point 7
Widener 46 ..... Wash. & Jeff. 30
Wittenberg 41 ..... Thomas More 0

QUARTERFINALS

Bridgewater (Va.) 57 ..... Widener 32
Mount Union 49 ..... Wittenberg 21
Rowan 48 ..... Ithaca 0
St. John's (Minn.) 31 ..... Pacific Lutheran 6

SEMIFINALS

Bridgewater (Va.) 29 ..... Rowan 24
Mount Union 35 ..... St. John's (Minn.) 14

CHAMPIONSHIP

Mount Union 30 ..... Bridgewater (Va.) 27

NAIA Playoffs

FIRST ROUND

Benedictine (Kan.) 29 ..... NW Oklahoma St. 27
Campbellsville (Ky.) 42 ..... St. Francis (Ind.) 21
Carroll (Mont.) 45 ..... Valley City St. (N.D.) 27
Concordia (Neb.) 31 ..... St. Ambrose (Iowa) 26
Evangel (Mo.) 48 ..... Kansas Wesleyan 0
Georgetown (Ky.) 42 ..... Tri-State (Ind.) 21
Sioux Falls (S.D.) 27 ..... Mary (N.D.) 21 (OT)
Southern Oregon 54 ..... McKendree (Ill.) 10

QUARTERFINALS

Benedictine (Kan.) 34 ..... Evangel (Mo.) 30
Carroll (Mont.) 16 ..... Southern Oregon 13
Georgetown (Ky.) 76 ..... Campbellsville (Ky.) 9
Sioux Falls (S.D.) 34 ..... Concordia (Neb.) 0

SEMIFINALS

Georgetown (Ky.) 31 ..... Carroll (Mont.) 22
Sioux Falls (S.D.) 40 ..... Benedictine (Kan.) 6

CHAMPIONSHIP

Georgetown (Ky.) 49 ..... Sioux Falls (S.D.) 27

I-A Coaching Changes for 2002

SCHOOL	FORMER COACH	NEW COACH
Arkansas St.	Joe Hollis	Steve Roberts
California	Tom Holmoe	Jeff Tedford
Florida	Steve Spurrier	Ron Zook
Georgia Tech	George O'Leary	Chan Gailey
Indiana	Cam Cameron	Gerry DiNardo
Kansas	Terry Allen	Mark Mangino
La.-Lafayette	Jerry Baldwin	Rickey Bustle
Navy	Charlie Weatherbie	Paul Johnson
Notre Dame	Bob Davie	Tyrone Willingham
San Diego St.	Ted Tollner	Tom Craft
SMU	Mike Cavan	Phil Bennett
Stanford	Tyrone Willingham	Buddy Teevens
Vanderbilt	Woody Widenhofer	Bobby Johnson

National Recruiting

Longhorns continue Brown's spree with another No. 1 class.

By Doug Huff, Student Sports Magazine

Texas is No. 1—at least in the annual talent search for college football players. Coach Mack Brown's team received commitments from 27 prospects, including 22 home-grown players, as the Longhorns were the dominant school in recruiting fertile Texas.

The other five signees come from five different states—neighboring Oklahoma and Louisiana plus Arizona, Colorado and Illinois.

The marquee recruit is 6-foot-6, 200-pound quarterback **Vincent Young** of Madison High in Houston, who ran and passed for 53 touchdowns and accounted for 4,167 yards of total offense for a 14-1 team. He was selected Student Sports Magazine's National Player of the Year and Parade's Co-Player of the Year with running back **Lorenzo Booker** of St. Bonaventure High in Ventura, California. Booker committed to Florida State.

Texas arguably landed the nation's top group of defensive linemen with eight touted prospects in the fold, including **Marco Martin**, **Rodrique Wright**, **Larry Dibbles** and **Tully Janszen** from Texas; **Bryan Pickryl** from Oklahoma; **Chase Pittman** from Louisiana; **Kasey Studdard** from Colorado; and **Lyle Sendelein** from Arizona.

With Texas the consensus winner among the recruiting classes, here's the remainder of the Top 25:

2. Ohio State

The Buckeyes, like Texas, concentrated on their in-state talent and landed most of the home-grown plums with 18 of the 25 recruits from the Buckeye State, including running back **Maurice Clarett** of Warren Harding High, the *USA Today* Offensive Player of the Year. Mammoth **Derek Morris** (6-6, 350) of North Mecklenburg High in Huntersville, North Carolina, is arguably the nation's top offensive line recruit. A sleeper could be quarterback/athlete **Troy Smith** from Glenville High in Cleveland, who outplayed highly touted **Justin Zwick** of Massillon at the Student Sports Elite 11 Quarterback Camp.

3. Miami

The Hurricanes continue to lead the Big East in landing talent and may have the best group of receivers in this recruiting class. The four incoming pass-catchers are **Ryan Moore**, **Darnell Jenkins** and **Sinorice Moss** of Florida and **Akieem Jolla** of Louisiana plus tight ends **Eric Winston** of Texas and **Curtis Justus** of Oklahoma. The No. 1 recruit, however, probably is athlete **Devin Hester** of Florida, the MVP of the Califlorida Bowl all-star game. Hester can play wideout, defensive back, running back and return kicks.

4. Florida State

The Seminoles' stock was boosted on signing day when **Lorenzo Booker** of Ventura, California, rated the top running back prospect, shocked recruiting experts by announcing on ESPN he was going to FSU. He will join, arguably, the nation's top linebacker group, which includes **Buster Davis** and **Sam McGrew** of Florida, **Darrell Burston** and **Nate Hardage** of Georgia, **A.J. Nicholson** of North Carolina and **Kamerion Wimberly** of Kansas. A sleeper might be wide receiver **John Harris** of Americus, Georgia, who joins a talented group of wideouts, including possibly the two best around—**Dishon Platt** and **Chris Davis**, both in-state products.

5. Tennessee

The Vols landed super in-state running back **Gerald Riggs Jr.** from Red Bank High in Chattanooga, and he will run behind maybe the nation's top crop of offensive line recruits. That group is headed by **Brandon Jefferies** of North Carolina and **Rob Smith** of Kentucky, along with **Cody Douglass** from Texas and in-state product **Justin Harrell**. A sleeper recruit might be defensive back **Jonathan Wade** from Louisiana powerhouse **Evangel Christian** of Shreveport, one of nine college-bound players from that school.

6. UCLA

The Bruins needed help at quarterback and appear to have filled their biggest need by landing two touted in-state signal-callers—**Drew Olson** of Piedmont and **Matt Moore** of Newhall. Also on board is all-round athlete and quarterback **Mike Nixon** of Phoenix, the Arizona Player of the Year. The top individual recruit may be highly touted tight end **Marcedes Lewis** of Poly High of Long Beach, which has produced more NFL players than any other high school. Poly had six D-I recruits this season.

7. Oklahoma

The Sooners corralled the nation's top defensive secondary group, including **Jason Carter** of in-state powerhouse Jenks, the nation's second-ranked team, plus **Aaron Miller** of Fresno, California, and two Texas products—**Michael Hawkins** of Carrollton and **Brodney Poole** of Houston. Two promising tight ends also were landed—**J. D. Runnells** of in-state Midwest City and **Lanear Nixon** of Miami.

8. Virginia

Two of the nation's top three linebackers remained in-state and signed with the Cavaliers, giving them a solid group of defenders. Staying home were **Ahmad Brooks** of Woodbridge, the USA Today Defensive Player of the Year, and **Kai Parham** of Virginia Beach, who could play immediately next season and might be the nation's top incoming linebacker.

9. Georgia

The Bulldogs lured Florida's top offensive line prospect, **Max Jean-Gilles** of North Miami, to the Athens campus, and also super defensive lineman **Kedric Golston** of Tyrone, Georgia, rated the nation's top D-line prospect until being injured in an automobile wreck during football season. A sleeper prospect also is coming off an injury—running back **Reshard Dudley** of Marianna, Florida, who was a Top 100 prospect when healthy.

10. Southern Cal

Four players from powerhouse Long Beach Poly highlight this class, including safety **Darnell Bing**, defensive lineman **Manuel Wright**, running back **Herschel Dennis** and offensive lineman **Winston Justice**. Another in-state product, however, could be the class sleeper—linebacker **Oscar Lua** of Indio.

11. Michigan

The Wolverines recruited well in-state and in the Midwest but went to California for a quarterback—**Matt Gutierrez** from the nation's top-ranked team, De La Salle of Concord. Michigan signed its top in-state prospect in 6-foot-4, 335-pound defensive lineman **Gabe Watson**, who also could be tested on the offensive side of the ball.

12. Notre Dame

New head coach Tyrone Willingham, who left Stanford for South Bend, landed 18 recruits, including two touted prospects from a familiar state, California—wide receiver **Rhema McKnight** from La Palma and offensive lineman **Derek Landri** from top-ranked De La Salle. Other "name" recruits include wide receiver **Maurice Stovall** from Pennsylvania and defensive lineman **Travis Leitko** from Texas.

13. South Carolina

Lou Holtz and company concentrated on the Carolinas and Georgia for most of their talent search and reeled in one of the nation's top linebacker prospects in **Ricardo Hurley** from Greenwood, South Carolina, plus tight end/offensive lineman **Mo Thompson** of Goose Creek, South Carolina's Player of the Year.

14. Colorado

The Buffaloes reached into California, Texas and Louisiana for several of their 30 solid signees, but few marquee recruits are on the list. However, some of the "no-names" impressed observers at summer camps and appear prospects with promising futures. That list includes defensive back **Donald Burgs** of Houston and tight end **Joseph Klopenstein** of Aurora, Colorado.

15. Mississippi State

The Bulldogs cornered the in-state recruiting market by landing 20 home-grown prospects among its 28 signees. Included are running back/athlete **Jerious Norwood** of Brandon, the state's Player of the Year, and one of the nation's top safety prospects in **Darren Williams** of Clarksdale. A talented out-of-state recruit is quarterback **Justin Tyler** from Georgia.

16. Auburn

The Tigers landed fleet wide receiver **Ben Obomanu** of Selma, considered by some Alabama's top prospect, as well as touted quarterback **Brandon Cox** from Trussville, a state Player-of-the-Year honoree. A touted Florida running back, **Tre Smith** from Venice, also boosts the stock of his class.

17. Texas A&M

The Aggies didn't have to leave the state for 22 of their 23 signees. The leader of the pack is **Reggie McNeal** of state Class 5A champion Lufkin. He is considered the nation's top running quarterback. A home-grown sleeper might be defensive back **Courtney Lewis** from Houston.

18. Washington

The Huskies recruited one of the nation's top athletic quarterbacks in **Isaiah Stanback** from Garfield High in Seattle. He's joined by California running back **Kenny James**, who has scored more than 50 TDs in a season, and Arizona offensive lineman **Clayton Walker**, who might be the surprise of the bunch.

19. Penn State

The Nittany Lions went to 13 states to sign 21 prospects. In-state, the top recruit may be offensive lineman **Mark Farris** from Pittsburgh. From Michigan is that state's rushing and scoring record-holder, **Tim Shaw** from Clarenceville. From Illinois is linebacker/tight end prospect **J. R. Zwierzynski**, an all-state running back from Joliet Catholic.

20. LSU

Coach Nick Saban and staff didn't stray far from home to land 18 in-state prospects in a class of 27 recruits. Versatile athlete **Skyler Green**, from Marrero, is an explosive player who could perform at a number of positions. Running back **Justin Vincent** from Lake Charles and defensive lineman **Kyle Williams** of Ruston earned high praise from most recruiting analysts.

21. Florida

If the Gators had recruited as well at other positions as they did at running back, their overall ranking would have been closer the top. Florida landed possibly the top crop of running backs in the country, with one or two expected to see early game action—**Ciatrick Fason** from Florida and/or **DeShawn Wynn** from Ohio. Also in the mix is **Jimtavis Walker** from Georgia.

22. Arizona State

Seven junior college recruits dot this 30-player class, as the Sun Devils beat the Western bushes hard for talent. Among the high school crop is touted wide receiver **Terry Richardson** from California, and defensive end **Nick Johnson** and quarterback **Kellen Bradley** from Arizona.

23. Michigan State

The Spartans picked up some highly touted recruits, including the pass-and-catch combination of quarterback **Drew Stanton** and wide receiver **Agim Shabaj** from top in-state program Farmington Hills Harrison, which won its fifth straight state title last season. Also in the fold are two-sport standout **Matt Trannon**, a wide receiver from Flint, and touted St. Louis running back **David Richard**.

24. Kansas State

The Wildcats landed one of the nation's top junior college prizes in running back **Daniel Davis** from Garden City Community College in Kansas. The Virginia native, who got considerable time as a freshman at North Carolina, is expected to make an immediate impact. Another JUCO recruit who could see early action next fall is defensive back **Randy Jordan** from Bakersfield, California.

25. Virginia Tech

The Hokies didn't land the big in-state names signed by rival Virginia, but one name stands out in this class—Vick. Michael's younger brother, **Marcus Vick**, is also a quarterback and considered more advanced at this stage than his big brother, according to his prep coach, Tommy Reamon, who coached both at Warwick High in Newport News, Virginia. ■

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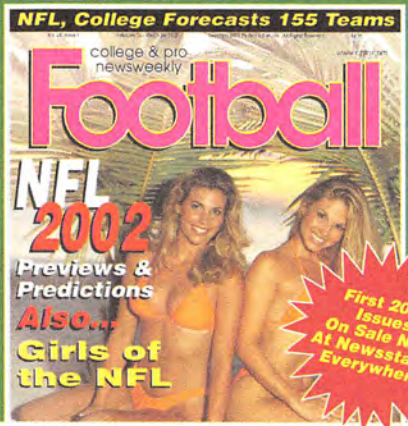

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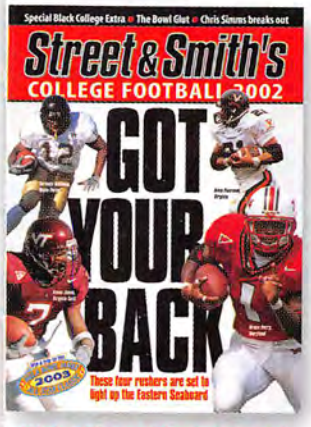
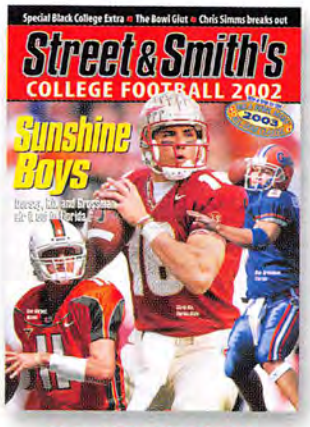
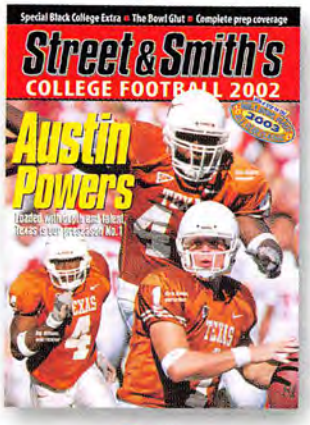


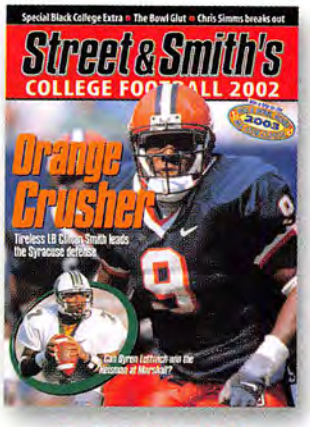
Wake Forest/VirginiaTech/
Virginia/N.C. State



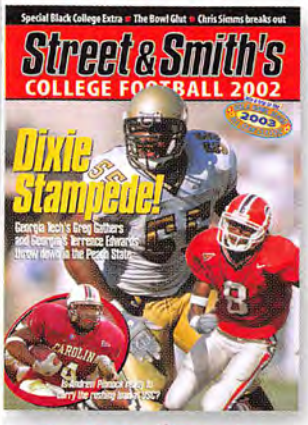
Miami/Florida State/
Florida



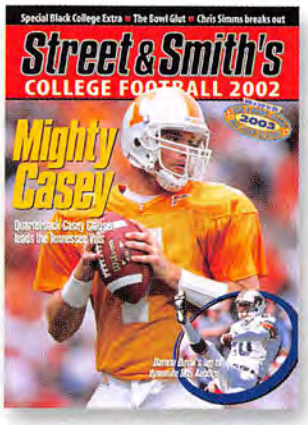
Texas



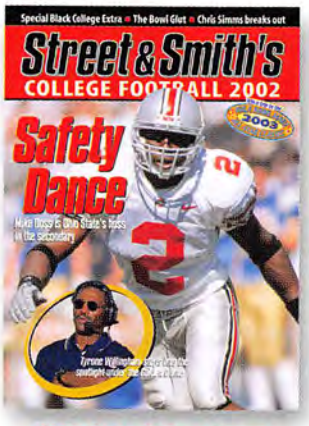
Syracuse/Marshall



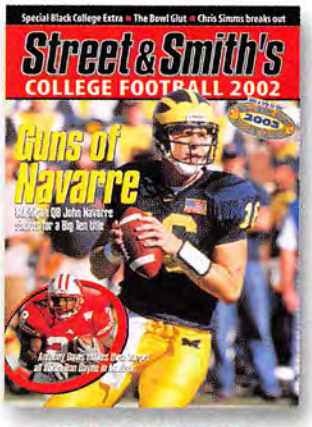
Georgia Tech/Georgia/
South Carolina



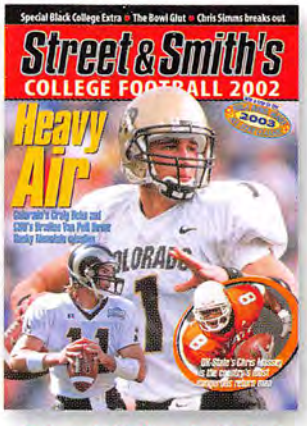
Tennessee/Auburn



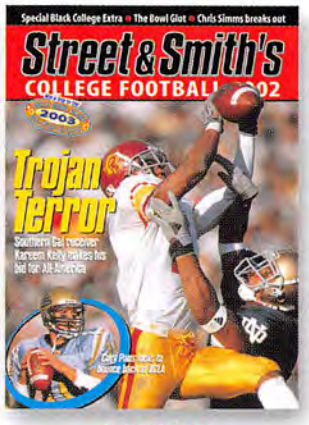
Ohio State/Notre Dame



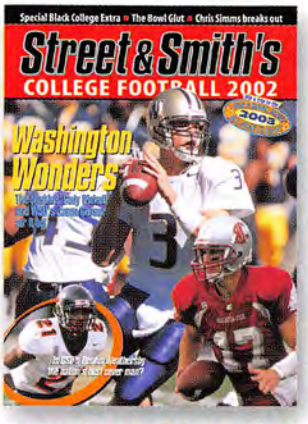
Michigan/Wisconsin



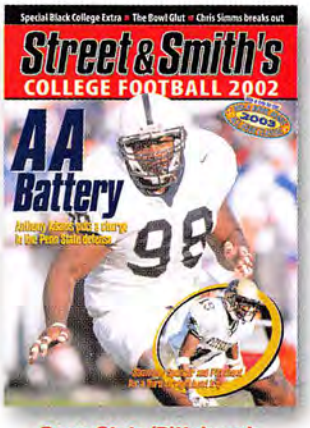
Colorado/Colorado State/
Oklahoma State



USC/UCLA



Washington/Washington State
Oregon State



Penn State/Pittsburgh

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